THE VALLEY PATRIOT

"Congress shall make no law..."

valleypatriot.com

2004 A NEW ENGLAND PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNING NEWSPAPER 2023

19+ YEARS OF NEWS & VIEWS!

DECEMBER, 2023
VOLUME 20, ISSUE 12
Edition #242

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
ZanniPesceLaw.com

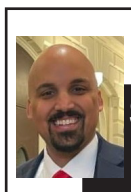
afc URGENT CARE
american family care
Methuen & North Andover

BORRELLI'S
Italian Deli
borrellisdeli.com

Election Fraud in Lawrence ... AGAIN!

Lawrence Police, State Officials Investigating More Election Fraud in Lawrence

INDEX

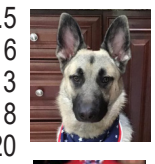


Senator Payano
PAGE 4

Vets.....1
Editorial.....2
State.....2,4,5-7
Methuen.....2,5,6,8,13-15, 26
Haverhill.....2
Lawrence.....4, 6, 9, 11, 14-16, 18
ROWLEY.....5
Dracut.....8,16
Pets.....13
National.....8,18
NOTEBOOK.....20
Books.....21
Religion.....23,27
Health.....23
Real Estate.....24
TV.....27

Beneath The Surface
Paul Murano
PAGE 23

Auditor DiZoglio
In Your Corner
PAGE 5



Kane
PAGE 13

Bill Cushing
TV TALK
PAGE 27

VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

U.S. Army Veteran - Joe Cuddy

Sharon McManus,
Sheila Halloran and
Ellen Daniels

Born and raised in South Lawrence, Joseph Cuddy attended St. Patrick's Grammar School and graduated from Central Catholic High School in the Class of 1952. Joe played basketball, hockey and football and ran track. After graduation, he enlisted in the US Army.

As the middle of 5 brothers, Joe's brother, Bill, graduated from Central Catholic in 1946 and enlisted in the Navy. John was in the Navy Reserve when he was in high school at Central, graduating in 1949, and enlisted in the Army and went to Korea. The Army sent John to Officer Candidate School in Fort Monmouth, NJ then to Camp Gordon, GA. John was a Lieutenant Colonel when he retired from the Army Reserves.

Joe followed in his two older brothers' paths, by enlisting in the US Armed Forces in March 1953. His younger brothers Jim and Gerry lived, worked, and volunteered in the Merrimack Valley. Their children continue to follow in their footsteps.

Joe completed sixteen weeks of basic training at Fort Campbell, KY and attended the Airborne School at Fort Benning, GA and was assigned to Fort Bragg, NC. Joe joined the 187 Airborne Regimental Combat Team. He flew to Fort Lewis, in Seattle, Washington, as part of an Army six-member crew, where he was the clerk for the cruise. The ship traveled to the Aleutian Islands and continued onto Yokohama. He then took a train to Camp Chickamauga in Beppu, Japan. While in Japan, Joe attended Jumpmaster School. He completed 36 parachute jumps.

On his way home from Japan, Joe was part of "Operation Gyroscope" a United States Army program implemented where entire regiments were rotated out of overseas service together rather than as individuals. They stopped at Wake Island, in the western Pacific Ocean, an island which was attacked by the Japanese during WWII. The second

stop was in Honolulu and then in San Francisco. He slept in a swing seat against the wall in the plane. The group got off and got right back on at each stop. They had an emergency landing in San Francisco due to a lost engine. Joe was discharged in March 1956 as a Corporal.

Joe returned from his service in the Army and worked for New England Telephone in Lawrence as a lineman, while attending Lowell Tech, where he earned his degree in Engineering. Joe

HERO: PAGE 26

Four Star LIGHTING & ELECTRIC INC.
Installing / Repairing / Replacing:
Lighting • Circuits & Wiring • Service Upgrade • Generators
Residential Smoke Detectors
24-HOUR SCHEDULING
Now Hiring Electricians
Fully Licensed & Insured
Search Light Rentals
FourStarLighting.net • 978-851-4900

MA Democrats Must Walk the Walk

If They Cared about the Poor There Would be Fewer Homeless People on the Streets of Lawrence

Right now, there are tens of thousands of American citizens in Massachusetts who are homeless, jobless, hungry, and in desperate need of help.

This is a human tragedy, and it is 100% the fault of the Massachusetts Democrat Party.

Why blame democrats?

Well, democrats control every single constitutional office from governor to state treasurer. Democrats represent an overwhelming majority of the state legislature. They control every single major city in the state, and they hold every Massachusetts congressional and senate seat.

So, one would think that the number of homeless Americans in this state would be decreasing every year. After all, Democrats "care about poor people," … right?

With so many democrats in charge of Massachusetts, the addiction crisis should be in full reverse, and hungry children whose parents are living in cars or tents should be well on their way to family reunification in a stable, and safe home with food and security.

But they are not.

Homelessness and addiction in Massachusetts are increasing year after year, while democrats increase their power in the state year after year.

We see a direct correlation.

While the needs of homeless Americans go mostly ignored by Massachusetts democrats, they have willingly imported more poor people, (illegal aliens) with the promise of free housing, free food, and other government benefits.

In fact, Governor Healey and the democrat-dominated legislature are spending billions of Massachusetts tax dollars on housing, clothing, and food for illegals, all the while American citizens (some of whom are veterans) continue to live on the streets with no food, no clothing, and no prospects of improving their living conditions.

They get nothing from the democrats in Massachusetts while citizens of Mexico, Russia, and Chad are living in high priced hotels on your dime.

That's not the compassion they promise us at election time; its treason.

Democrat legislators, especially here in the Merrimack Valley, need to be held accountable for all of this. It's long past time for voters to start applying pressure to Reps. Paulino, Reyes, Moran, Hamilton, Vargas, Ramos, Nguyen, and the rest of the Merrimack Valley delegation, to service Americans living on the streets before putting illegals in hotels and motels.

Instead of being puppets for their feckless political party, it's time they became leaders of their party and start solving these problems.

In Lawrence alone there are well over 200 individuals living on the streets, while their state representatives, senators, governor, and local officials do nothing to solve the problem. That doesn't count the 55 homeless people staying at the Daybreak Homeless Shelter every night, or the hundreds of people couch-surfing with friends or family members because they have nowhere else to live.

We often publish stories about the heroic volunteers at TMF (The Movement Family) who go out onto the streets of Lawrence every day to feed and service the homeless with no government help at all. In fact, the democrat-controlled state and local government officials have actually been a major hinderance to these brave volunteers and the work that they do.

If the democrats in this state actually did their jobs, there would be no need for TMF volunteers because the homeless crisis wouldn't exist. The fact that it does, says volumes about our democrat leaders – mostly, that they really don't give a damn about the poor.

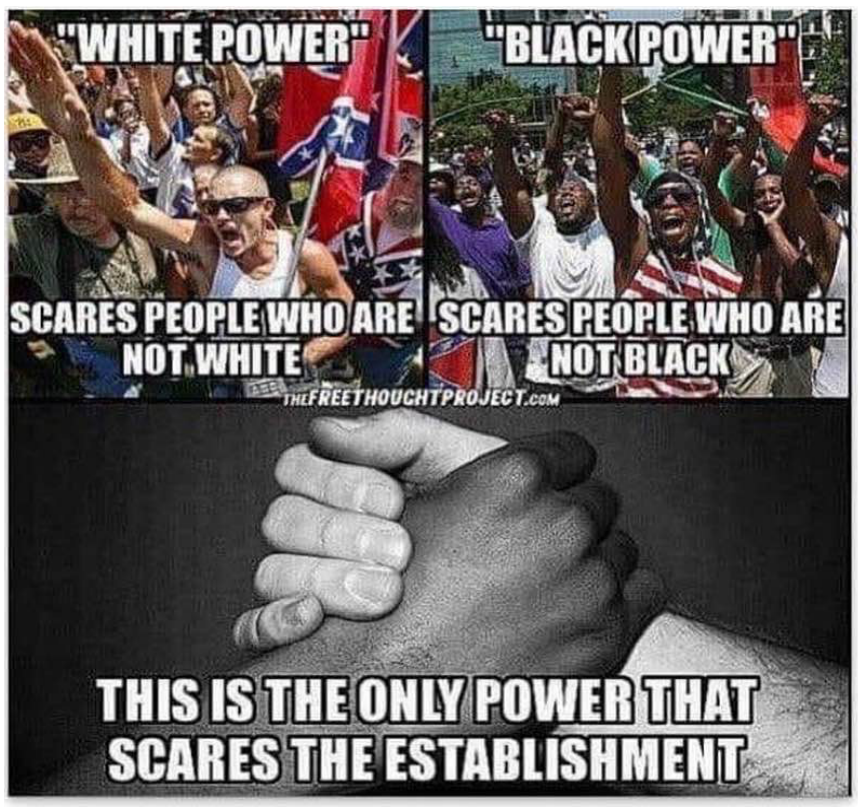
That has to change.

There's no reason for any American citizen to be homeless in the richest country in human history. And there is no reason for even one citizen of Massachusetts to be homeless in a state dominated by democrats whose self-declared purpose is "helping the poor."

Well, there is one reason: elected democrats in Massachusetts care more about increasing their political power, than they care about the Americans who are living on our streets.

So, when they all come up for reelection next year it's up to you, the voters, to force these democrats to walk the walk.

Because, until now, they have only mastered the art of talking the talk. ◊



The Valley Patriot is published monthly before the tenth of each month by Valley Patriot, Inc., 75 Main St., North Andover, MA 01845. All contents Copyright (c) 2023, Valley Patriot, Inc. All rights reserved. Subscriptions are $60 per year and sent via U.S. Mail.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Valley Patriot, Inc., PO Box 453, North Andover, MA 01845.

Letters to the editor, columns and op/eds can be submitted to **valleypatriot@aol**.com. The Valley Patriot is not responsible for the opinions expressed in submitted letters or columns. It is the policy of The Valley Patriot not to edit or exclude submitted material based on content.

PHONE: *(978) 771-4091*
www.valleypatriot.com

News tips: Send anonymous news-tips to valleypatriot@aol.com. We respect the anonymity of our sources if requested.

President/Publisher: Tom Duggan, Jr.
SALES: (978) 771-4091

Corrections: Please contact the editors at ***valleypatriot@aol.com***

The Valley Patriot can be found in more than 800 locations in 22 communities in Massachusetts and NH.

The Valley Patriot is not responsible for, nor do we necessarily share the opinions of columnists and contributors that are published in the paper. Columns, by definition, are opinion pieces.

The Valley Patriot is printed by Graphic Development in West Hanover, MA

Local daily news updates online at valleypatriot.com or facebook.com/valleypatriot

BORRELLI'S
Italian Deli
"Valley's Finest Home Cooked Food"

WWW.BORRELLISDELI.COM

Daily Luncheon Specials

Catering, prepared foods, sandwiches, etc.
Catering should be placed 24 hours in advance

Voted Best of 2023 - Best Deli & Sandwich shop for the last 16 years!

322 MERRIMACK ST
METHUEN MA 01844
978 687 2306

EAT, DRINK AND HAVE FUN!

RAE'S COAL FIRED | PAR 28 VIRTUAL GOLF AND AXE THROWING

VIRTUAL GOLF AXE THROWING
FULL KITCHEN & BAR

23 S BROADWAY SALEM NH
603 458 7078
INFO@PAR28.COM
WWW.PAR28NH.COM

HOURS:
MONDAY & TUESDAY CLOSED
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 3PM-9PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11AM-11PM
SUNDAY 11AM-7PM

MA Senate Passes PACT Act 3.0 for Affordable Healthcare

Pavel Payano
STATE SENATOR, 1ST ESSEX DISTRICT

In a historic move, the Massachusetts Senate unanimously passed the Act Relative to Pharmaceutical Access, Costs, and Transparency, commonly known as the PACT Act 3.0, on November 15, 2023.

This bipartisan legislation is a crucial step in urgently needed reforms to address the rising costs of prescription drugs and enhance transparency in our state's pharmaceutical system.

The bill received widespread acclaim, finding broad support among legislators. Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland) underscored the urgency of providing immediate relief from the escalating costs of prescription drugs, underscoring its alignment with the Senate's steadfast commitment to affordability, equity, and transparency. In her words, "The urgency of relieving prescription drug costs becomes paramount when lives are on the line.

I eagerly anticipate the bill's enactment, envisioning a future where residents and seniors paying a visit to the pharmacy counter will witness a tangible reduction in the costs of vital medications. This legislative reform mirrors the Senate's unwavering dedication to addressing affordability, equity, and transparency, ensuring the Commonwealth remains a competitive and thriving place to live and work."

Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means echoed these sentiments, expressing his satisfaction with the Senate's approval of the crucial prescription drug legislation. As the Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, he emphasized the bill's transformative impact on healthcare accessibility and affordability. In his words, "Healthcare is all about accessibility and affordability, and this reform-minded, consumer-focused bill will allow increased access to prescription drugs while also considerably driving down the cost of everyday medications. I thank Senator Friedman for her leadership on this and many healthcare issues, as this bill will literally save lives."

The bill's proponent, Senator Cindy F. Friedman (D-Arlington), a recognized leader in healthcare reform, conveyed her contentment with its passage and underscored its vital implications for accessibility and affordability. Senator Friedman, who serves as the Senate chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, highlighted Massachusetts' pioneering role in healthcare services and the life sciences sector. She stated, "This bill begins to meet the urgency of this challenge by eliminating cost-sharing for generic drugs and capping out-of-pocket costs for brand name drugs used to treat insulin, asthma, and the most prevalent heart conditions. In addition, this legislation will provide much-needed relief for certain high-cost drugs, improve patient access to medications and pharmacies of their choice, and enhance transparency and oversight within the pharmaceutical industry. I thank President Spilka, Chair Rodrigues, my Senate colleagues, and the many stakeholders who helped craft and improve this pressing legislation. Massachusetts deserves a healthcare system that delivers affordable, high-quality, and accessible care to all our residents, and this bill brings us one step closer to that goal. I hope this is the year we can get this bill signed into law."

Key Highlights of the PACT Act 3.0

Lowering Costs for Life-Saving Medications:

The legislation focuses on providing immediate price relief and reducing out-of-pocket spending for prescription drugs treating diabetes, asthma, and chronic heart conditions. Importantly, it addresses disparities affecting Black and brown residents.

To achieve this, the bill mandates insurers to eliminate deductibles and cost-sharing for one generic drug and caps co-payments on one brand-name drug at $25 per 30-day supply. This approach aims to improve access and mitigate the financial burden that often leads to the dangerous practice of rationing life-saving drugs.

Ensuring Patients' Preferred Pharmacy Access:

The PACT Act 3.0 takes significant strides to ensure patients can obtain prescription drugs from their chosen pharmacies. It empowers independent pharmacists to dispense specialty medications and allows any network pharmacy to contract with carriers for mail-order prescriptions. This change disrupts the current practice of carriers determining available pharmacies for mail-order prescriptions.

Holding Drug Companies Accountable:

Enhanced accountability tools in the bill address rising medication costs and barriers to care. It empowers the Health Policy Commission (HPC) to identify high drug prices creating access barriers and recommend measures to increase patient access. Non-compliant pharmaceutical manufacturers face fees directed to a trust fund for a new drug cost assistance program.

Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Oversight:

To combat a potential driver of rising healthcare costs, the legislation introduces crucial oversight for Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), integral players in shaping the tiering and pricing of prescription drugs within insurance plans. PBMs are supposed to serve as intermediaries among health insurers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, and pharmacies, overseeing the management of prescription drug benefits for insurance plans. Their responsibilities include negotiating drug prices with manufacturers, establishing pharmacy networks, and processing prescription drug claims. Despite their intended role in streamlining the prescription drug supply chain, PBMs lack transparency and have had an impact in increasing drug pricing. Their practices such as rebate negotiations and formulary management contribute to increased costs for patients and restricted access to certain medications.

The PACT Act 3.0 seeks to address these concerns by implementing oversight and regulation for PBMs, ensuring alignment with the best interests of consumers and the broader healthcare system. Currently, PBMs operate with minimal oversight, leaving uncertainties about whether they prioritize the best interests of consumers or health plans during negotiations with pharmaceutical manufacturers. Under the PACT Act 3.0, the Division of Insurance (DOI) is empowered to address this gap by

instituting essential oversight through the licensing and regulation of PBMs, coupled with sanctions for those failing to meet specified standards.

Furthermore, both pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs will now participate in the Health Policy Commission's (HPC) annual Cost Trends Hearings for the first time. This inclusion in the hearing process mandates the provision of public testimony regarding the factors influencing drug costs, accompanied by supporting documentation. The HPC will leverage this information to conduct a thorough analysis of how pharmaceutical industry costs impact the state's healthcare market, ultimately influencing the overall cost of healthcare for residents of Massachusetts.

Protecting 340B and Future Steps:

I am proud to have contributed to the bill's success by introducing an amendment to ensure safety net hospitals and community health centers can purchase discounted drugs through the federal 340B program.

The amendment was a crucial measure aimed at safeguarding the integrity of the 340B program, particularly benefiting our safety net hospitals and community health centers. Recognizing the paramount importance of quality and affordable healthcare access in my district, as well as in Gateway Cities and BIPOC communities statewide, it is evident that our safety net hospitals and community health centers serve as a lifeline for countless low-income and uninsured residents.

Safety net hospitals, exemplified by Lawrence General Hospital with the highest urban, stand-alone community hospital inpatient volume of 10,543 discharges and 14,280 patients in FY22, and community health centers such as the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center operating across seven community locations in Haverhill, Lawrence, and Methuen, play a pivotal role in delivering a diverse array of essential services.

At the heart of this support is the 340B program, a federal program that empowers institutions like Lawrence General and the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center to acquire pharmaceutical drugs at discounted rates from manufacturers. This program significantly enhances the financial flexibility of our safety net hospitals and health centers, allowing them to expand services and deliver a more comprehensive level of care. Notably, the Lawrence Family Health Center has utilized its savings to hire translators, community health workers, fund medication therapy management, and broaden pharmacy access.

However, recent challenges emerged as drug manufacturers and distributors imposed restrictive measures on 340B-covered entities, hindering the utilization of third-party contract pharmacies. Beginning in 2020, these restrictions, varying between manufacturers, limited health centers to a single contract pharmacy or, in some cases, barred their use altogether if the health center had an in-house pharmacy. This impediment made it harder for health centers to procure and distribute 340B drugs, subsequently restricting funds available for patient services.

To address this issue, I presented an amendment that will rectify existing ambiguities at the state level by explicitly prohibiting manufacturers and distributors from obstructing the acquisition or delivery of a 340B drug to a pharmacy under contract with a federally qualified 340B health center or a safety net hospital. While this amendment is a crucial step toward ending discrimination against 340B program participants, it is acknowledged that it doesn't cover all entities.

As we move forward, we remain committed to expanding protections for all 340B-covered entities and addressing discriminatory practices. Together with my bill, S.704, aimed at prohibiting practices by Pharmacy Benefit Managers, we strive to restore the intent of the program and ensure accessible, affordable healthcare for all Massachusetts residents.

The PACT Act 3.0 now awaits consideration in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. As we champion comprehensive pharmaceutical reform, I am optimistic about the positive impact this legislation will have on the health and well-being of our communities. ◊

Our Government's Failed Immigration Policy

Tom Duggan
VALLEY PATRIOT PUBLISHER

Back in 2022 I had the honor of representing Massachusetts on an Immigration Task Force for the National Conference of State Legislators where I joined state legislators from across the country to find ways to fix our broken immigration system.

What I remember most is that after just a few zoom meetings, where we outlined problems and issues, we finally met in person in Washington DC to come up with a final policy statement.

It took just a single day.

There were no Ds or Rs in the room, (Democrats or Republicans), no blue team or red team, just a couple dozen state legislators who recognized how the cost of the federal government's failure on immigration policy fell on cities and states and how it didn't have to be this way.

And the costs are not minor with some estimates at about $150 billion per year as the net cost at the federal, state, and local levels. In Massachusetts alone we're spending about $45 million per month just for housing new migrants, but the overall costs are substantially higher when factoring in things like food, clothing, healthcare, education, and law enforcement. The scary part is that nobody seems to know what the overall cost to the Commonwealth is, only that it's growing every year.

Done correctly, immigration becomes more of a solution than a problem and we need only look to places like Australia, Canada, and Germany to see examples of how this could work.

Done incorrectly and we need look no further than across the pond to UK and Europe where right-wing political parties are gaining power and winning elections because voters are pushing back against uncontrolled immigration. Worse yet, history shows that out-of-control immigration leads to the rise of hate groups which is happening both here and abroad.

This shows us yet another example of how political parties are at the root of our problems, producing a tribalism that leads to inaction in our governments and deep, damaging divisions in society. Some on the far left want to abolish agencies like ICE and CBP, and decriminalize illegal border crossing, while some on the far right want to close our borders and end birthright citizenship, which is guaranteed under the Constitution. Meanwhile, moderates on both sides fear primary challenges from within their own party if they appear too willing to compromise.

This is crippling in a rapidly aging country like ours where we have a severe worker shortage, especially in crucial jobs like doctors, nurses, teachers, police officers, and military personnel. A well-run immigration system would benefit our economy by helping to fill those needs instead of hurting it with new arrivals who will be a drain on public finances.

Within the next ten years Medicare and Social Security will begin to run out of money as more Americans retire. Those programs rely on workers paying into them to keep them solvent and immigration can be a solution, if only the parties would get out of the way. ◊

Knowledge is Power, and Power Belongs to the People

IN YOUR CORNER with AUDITOR DIZOGLIO

State Auditor Diana DiZoglio is from Methuen and writes an exclusive column for The Valley Patriot every month.

With Thanksgiving having just passed and the winter holidays around the corner, families and friends are getting together at dinner tables or celebrating at warm parties.

This is a season of gratitude.

But sometimes getting together with loved ones during the holiday season can come with a bit of anxiety. Not all friends and family belong to the same political parties or hold the same views on a lot of hot button issues.

What starts off as light political banter can sometimes turn into a heated discussion or even debate during a moment meant for us to be able to come together, love one another, share joyful memories, and celebrate the New Year.

This year, however, I'm excited that we have something we can all agree on. Whether we are conservative, liberal, or somewhere in between – we all want an accountable, transparent, and accessible Legislature.

We want Beacon Hill to let the sunshine in.

Regardless of party affiliation, we the people want to know how our tax dollars are being spent. We want the opportunity to be heard on issues that matter to us, regardless of our family background, bank balance or zip code. We want legislative leaders to stop bucking transparency and welcome an audit by the Office of State Auditor – like every other taxpayer-funded state entity does.

I am thankful for the hard work of so many in collecting enough signatures - more than 98k - to get the issue of auditing our state legislature on the ballot.

This is a moment to unify on behalf of making government work better. By joining together, we can and will make meaningful changes for working families right here in the Merrimack Valley and all across Massachusetts.

That is something to celebrate.

So, as we all get ready for gatherings that often pose a potential for tense political conversations, I arm us with an issue on which we can all agree: The Legislature should be audited.

Transparency increases access to knowledge.

We know that knowledge is power, and power belongs to the people.

Wishing you all a beautiful holiday season and Happy New Year.

Yours in service,
Diana DiZoglio ◊

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
NORTH ANDOVER
129 Turnpike St.
North Andover, MA 01845

PLEASANT VALLEY
LANDSCAPE
CONTRACTORS
(978) 685-8857
Methuen, MA

Health Care and the Haverhill Fire Dept.

Ryan Hamilton
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

First, I'd like to wish a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all those who celebrate. Let us all enjoy a time to get together and enjoy quality time with family and friends. I look forward to 2024 and building on all that was accomplished in 2023!

In November, the Massachusetts House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation that takes a comprehensive approach towards reforming the long-term care industry by supporting and expanding the workforce, enhancing oversight of facilities, and ensuring greater access, all while prioritizing quality of care. This legislation took in mind several recommendations from the Nursing facility task force.

- Providing the Department of Public Health (DPH) with additional tools to monitor and take punitive action against facilities, including new abilities to limit, restrict, suspend, or revoke a license for cause and appoint temporary managers;
- Strengthening DPH's licensure suitability standards to include a more comprehensive review of the background and legal record of applicants and expanding the scope of review to include any entity with at least 5 percent ownership interest in a nursing facility; and
- Creating new initiatives to support and grow the workforce, such as workforce training grants to develop new Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs), career ladder program grants, and leadership and supervisory training.

This piece of legislation goes a long way and holding facilities accountable also gives them the tools they need to keep our loved ones in long-term care facilities safe.

This past week, I joined Congresswomen Lori Trahan, the Haverhill State delegation, and local dignitaries to present a 4.1 million grant to the Haverhill Fire Department. This grant that the Haverhill Fire Department

applied for, and Congresswomen Trahan secured, will provide the City of Haverhill with 16 new firefighters over the next three years.

This will allow the fire department to staff another ladder truck. This truck will be located at the Bradford fire station. This will severely reduce response times to the Bradford and Ward Hill sections of Haverhill.

Due to the work of Congresswomen Lori Trahan and the Haverhill Fire Department, there is no doubt in my mind that the residents of Haverhill are safer now than they were before.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Haverhill Legislative Delegation and the Haverhill Fire Department to enhance the city's fire services further and ensure our firefighters are given the equipment to keep themselves and our community safe.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact my office with any ideas, concerns, or questions at ryan.hamilton@mahouse.gov or 617-722-2090. ◊

Bay Staters Deserve Opportunities To Build a Better Financial Future

Francisco Paulino
and Jeffrey Rosario Turco
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Whether you grew up in Lawrence, Methuen, Revere, Winthrop, Brighton, or Boston, every community in the Commonwealth values kitchen-table issues; an honest day's work, safe streets, affordable homes, good schools, access to quality and affordable healthcare, and the ability to earn a good living and save for the future.

Just last month, we were able to pass a historic Tax Relief Bill which will make the Commonwealth more affordable, competitive, and equitable by putting real dollars directly back into the pockets of hardworking Bay Staters. Whether it's by increasing the child and dependent tax credit for families or lowering the capital gains tax so folks see more of their money when they invest in their Robinhood or Fidelity accounts, this legislation will provide immediate relief and opportunities for working class people fighting hard every day to make a living.

There's more work to be done. It's no secret that for much of this country's history, the financial system has been largely closed off to most Americans. Teachers, plumbers, steamfitters, steelworkers, nurses, members of the military, and men and women in uniform simply have not always had the same opportunities to save and build wealth as the one percent.

Until recently, owning stocks was largely reserved for older, wealthy, and less diverse Americans, including those with the means to pay a financial professional to do it for them. Fortunately, recent innovations aimed at empowering a new age of investors tore down these barriers, reshaped our financial system, and paved the way for a massive influx of new investors into the stock market. These millions of new investors are younger, more diverse, and come from every community and every part of the country, including hundreds of thousands of people right here in Massachusetts.

Not only did this transformative shift expand access to the stock market for an entirely new generation of Americans, but it has also made finance and investing more approachable and relevant to millions of people who had previously avoided it because of its intimidating and exclusive nature. Today, technology has democratized investing with easy-to-use, low-cost mobile platforms like Robinhood that for the first time provide tools allowing ordinary Americans to save a little more, make a few extra dollars in income, and invest in great American companies they believe in, including companies that are based here in the Commonwealth. These new platforms have not only simplified the act of purchasing a stock, they've increased the overall relevance and interest in personal finance. Whether it's through podcasts, newsletters, or in-app education modules, these platforms are using technology to communicate with and educate investors, making financial literacy more accessible by breaking-down complex concepts such as compounding and dollar cost averaging, as well as the differences between a traditional and Roth IRA and the implications of a 'wash sale' or capital gains.

We must encourage these platforms, who are uniquely positioned, with their reach and resources, to continue prioritizing financial literacy with the understanding that developing a new generation of informed investors will lead them to a more sustainable financial future. We also need to

promote sound policies that will help keep these new investors involved for the long-term while protecting them from fraud and abuse. Unfortunately, recent efforts by financial regulators are threatening to throw these new investors right back out of the markets. At both the state and federal levels, securities regulators are considering new rules that, while intended to protect investors, would strike at the very heart of the online model most prefer to use to invest today. These rules could even make it impossible for financial providers to use the very same innovative technologies that have brought millions into the stock market in the first place.

And they are likely to disproportionately harm those underserved populations that for decades have been told they aren't smart enough or wealthy enough to invest.

We reject this narrative, as do many of our colleagues. We've personally spoken to our neighbors – construction workers in Lawrence, firefighters in Revere, cab drivers around Boston, and the staff here in the State House – many of whom tell us that they feel more empowered and equipped than ever before to make their own financial decisions.

These are normal people who don't necessarily have the resources, the need, or the desire to completely turn the management of their finances over to expensive professionals. Instead, they've gravitated toward affordable and easy-to-use mobile platforms that allow them to take a more hands-on approach in managing their finances.

These investors deserve strong, sensible regulations that protect them from fraud and abuse, but they also deserve the opportunity to participate fully in our financial system and achieve the American dream. We will continue to fight in the State House for policies that give our communities both. ◊

Veterans Benefits and Ride Shares

Estela Reyes
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

I want to start this month's column with a big 'Thank You'! Thank you for reading into and engaging with the work of your elected officials. It is a joy of this job to hear constituents' advocacy and carry their voices to the State policy-making level. I am thankful to every one of you.

This month I was excited to recognize and remember our veterans. I sit on the Committee of Veterans and Federal Affairs, so I am highly attuned to the issues regarding veterans. I will continue to advocate for veteran support here at the State House.

In my community, I was excited to give out buckets for veterans filled with supplies to assist those through the cold winter months. The buckets were donated to the State House and handed out to veterans across the state. If you or someone you know is a veteran and has any questions, comments, or concerns, please reach out to my legislative aide Laura (laura.byman@mahouse.gov) who will assist you with where to take your question.

Also at the State House, this November's calendar was full of committee hearings in preparation for closing out the First Session. During a Committee hearing, anyone can testify in support or opposition to the bill on the docket. The comm/ittee members

either favorably report a bill, meaning they recommend the passage of it, or they give an adverse report, signaling that they want the bill to be killed. Committee members vote based on testimony, research backing the bill, and their political ideology. If you feel inclined to advocate for or against a bill, please check out malegislature.gov for more information on how to do so.

An important piece of legislation this month that I co-sponsor is H.1099, An Act establishing a transportation network driver bill of rights. This bill gives rideshare drivers the right to organize and protect themselves against retaliation from organizing. It bars unions from coercion and requires them to represent workers fairly through a bargaining unit of 25% of the eligible voters. Bargaining is industry-wide. Many constituents advocated in support of this bill, which is another reason I was happy to support it.

Representatives are also able to testify on legislation. In my testimony for H.1099 I shared that our current system is failing rideshare drivers. These drivers often rely on a large portion, or all, of their income to provide for themselves and their families. The uncertainty of their pay, high demand, ever-evolving technology, and manipulative practices by the companies, creates high levels of stress and can be emotionally taxing. We as state legislators must take action to protect these workers and their worker rights. I believe in workers getting the money they deserve.

Please stay involved with local politics by contacting your representative's office and being active in your community. And please, save time to take care of yourselves as well. ◊

HOME | AUTO | COMMERCIAL | LIFE

PRIME
INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.

See What PRIME Can Do For You

978.685.9999

The Right Coverage. The Right Price. The Right Value.

www.PrimeHomeandAuto.com
Quotes@PrimeHomeandAuto.com
401 Andover Street - Suite 201A, North Andover, MA 01845

The Year in Review: 2023 in Dracut

EYE ON DRACUT

By Brian Genest
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT COLUMNIST

As we get ready to usher in a new year, here's a look at some of the highlights and happenings from 2023 in Dracut.

* The Dracut Scholarship Foundation's annual telethon raised more than $162,000. Since it began, the scholarship foundation has awarded nearly $2 million in scholarships to 1,700 Dracut High School graduates. Every year, the Dracut Scholarship Foundation Telethon brings out the best of Dracut, shining a bright spotlight on our community's long-term commitment to helping DHS students.

* It was a quiet town election in Dracut this year. There were no contested races. Chairman Alison Genest and Heather Santiago-Hutchings ran unopposed for Selectman. Genest topped the ticket for her second town election in a row, winning seven of the town's 10 precincts, and was subsequently re-elected to serve as Chairman of the Board for a third year. In the School Committee race, Chairman Renee Young was the only candidate. Likewise in the race for Dracut Housing Authority, where incumbent George Nangle also had no challengers. In the Dracut Water Supply District election, Gay Corey and Peter Natsios were the only two candidates for Commissioner.

* Neighborhood residents raised questions and a variety of concerns about a 300-unit affordable housing development proposed for East Dracut on the site of the former Murphy Farm. The development is expected to impact every aspect of town government, including the schools, due to its large size.

Murphy Farm is one of 12 housing developments currently in the planning stages in Dracut that are expected to bring about 900 new housing units to town. In addition, a state housing mandate calls for Dracut to accommodate another 1,200 new housing units or lose state grant funding. State legislators passed that measure with the intention of providing housing in communities near MBTA commuter rail stations. To comply with the law, the town must create a new zoning district that allows for 15 housing units to be built per acre, which the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee is working on now to meet next year's deadline.

* Speaking of zoning bylaws, as member of the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee, which was charged with overhauling the town's zoning bylaws for the first time since the 1980s, Selectman Heather Santiago-Hutchings totally zoned out.

Those zoning bylaw changes were supposed to come before town meeting for consideration in June, but the Board of Selectmen and residents were so blindsided and concerned by the number, scope, and potential impact of the proposed changes--and lack of communication about them--they were pushed forward to November.

Instead of focusing on policies, Heather-Santiago Hutchings had been focused on politics. She spent a considerable amount of time and effort trying to change the makeup of the committee and get her political buddy Phil Thibault appointed. Thibault, a perennial candidate who has lost nine town elections, including electoral contest against all five sitting selectmen, was ultimately rejected for the seat. The Board of Selectmen cited conflict of interest, as Thibault is an architect who conducts business in town with builders, contractors and others governed by the zoning bylaws.

* Former Dracut Selectman Sheila Richardson celebrated her 90th birthday this year at a surprise party held at Harmony Hall. It was standing room only for the celebration, which brought together many of Richardson's family, friends, and well-wishers. As you may recall, Richardson was a force in local and state politics for decades. In addition to serving on the Board of Selectmen and Housing Authority, she was a member of the Massachusetts Republican State Committee and founder of the Dracut Republican Town Committee.

* 20-year-old Christian Lemay of Dracut was acquitted of first-degree murder and related charges in the 2020 Lowell shooting death of 20-year-old Adrian Kimborowicz.

* When Chairman Joe Wilkie unexpectedly resigned from the Dracut School Committee, Phil Thibault popped up again, with perhaps the shortest candidacy in town history to fill the unexpired term. Thibault announced he was in the race and then a nanosecond later he was out. In between, Thibault apparently realized he was unable to muster five votes from the Board of Selectmen and School Committee. Members of those two boards ended up unanimously appointing Rob Sheppard, a guy who actually ran for school committee last year and finished third in that five way-race behind winners Allison Volpe and Dr. Linda Trouville.

* Town government continued to focus on adding personnel to the public safety ranks. Three new firefighters joined the Dracut Fire Department:

Ryan Talbot, Dylan McCarthy, and Jacob Martin. Four new police officers, all Dracut natives, joined the Dracut Police Department: Owen McAnespie, Aimee Levesque, Leah Papageorgiou, and Kevin Steere.

* Dracut also said goodbye to some good friends this year. Tom McAnespie, former member of the Dracut School Committee and legal counsel for the Dracut Water Supply District, passed away at age 59. Former Dracut High School Principal Bruce Hutchins passed away at age 82. Retired Dracut Police Officer Harry Curtis passed away at age 71.

* Finally, in one of the most moving and memorable moments of the year, 99-year-old Dracut veteran and volunteer Pat Walor was honored with the Joseph Bradley Varnum Award for his military and community service.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Here's to a great 2024 in Dracut!

— Brian Genest is the producer and host of Eye On Dracut, winner of the Hometown Media Award for News, sponsored by Lucky Oil. Watch the monthly show on DATV Channel 8 in Dracut or online anytime at DracutTV.org. ◊

Rita Sanguedolce Memorial Scholarships Awarded

The Rita Sanguedolce Memorial/ Methuen Arlington Neighborhood Scholarship is made available to honor Rita Sanguedolce for her long years as an educator in the Methuen Public Schools and is targeted to aid students from Methuen Arlington Neighborhood (MAN, Inc.) who have successfully already begun their college education.

Robert Sanguedolce is pleased to announce the names of $2,500 and $1,500 Scholarship winners for the 2023 Program, and the following four college students that reside in the Methuen Arlington Neighborhood are on the list: Jenny Nguyen, $2,500; Iverson Rodriguez, $2,500; Darianna De La Cruz Deaza, $2,500 and Jenneysha Martinez, $1,500.

"We are very proud of their exemplary academic performance and commitment to education in all they do," said Linda Soucy from MAN, Inc. "They have worked very hard to earn this scholarship and they are role models to other students."

Robert Sanguedolce stated, "It is our fervent hope that this scholarship will not only help you achieve your current educational goals but will encourage in you a desire to one day 'pay it forward.' Perhaps years from now, when you've achieved professional success, you'll remember the help you received today and help another student just like yourself."

Recipients submitted a detailed scholarship application, which included writing an essay and providing information about why they chose their current degree program, how they are currently planning on paying for their college education and what they hope attaining this college degree will enable them to do in their future. Applicants also had to have an outstanding academic record, reside in the Arlington Neighborhood of Methuen and be earning a degree in the sciences. All recipients met these requirements.

Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. 141 Tenney Street, P.O. Box 715 Methuen, MA 01844 Phone: 978-691-5645 Fax: 978-691-5645 ◊

Methuen Police Receive $400K Grant to Create Clinical Community Response Team

METHUEN — CEO Matthew Page-Shelton and Police Chief Scott McNamara are pleased to announce that Front Line and the Methuen Police Department will receive a two-year, $400,000 grant to fund the addition of a clinical co-response clinician with the Methuen Police Department, as well as the creation of a civilian Community Response Team.

The addition of a clinical co-responder and a Community Response Team that can provide urgent psychotherapy services means the Methuen Police Department will soon have a comprehensive mental health program in place throughout the department.

The $400,000, two-year grant comes from the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office).

"Methuen Police and Front Line Services understand the need to divert behavioral calls for service away from emergency rooms and criminal justice system by utilizing a clinically trained team that can meet the needs of the community," said CEO Page-Shelton. "We are extremely grateful for this grant funding, which will provide us with a pathway to do far more to meet community needs."

Methuen Police and Front Line Services will use this grant funding to provide access to a master's level trained clinician and Community Response Team that will provide direct support to the community through crisis response and post-crisis outreach.

The goals of this project are to decrease the behavioral health calls for services responded to by law enforcement alone, to decrease unnecessary emergency room visits and criminal arrests, to increase connections to outpatient supports, increase initial engagement in cross-over/bridge supports post-crisis, and to increase equitable access through providing culturally and linguistically competent services to the community.

"This grant is a big deal for us, as it will enable us to create a comprehensive Mental Health Division within the Methuen Police Department, and to add a master's level trained clinician to work with those in our community who experience crises," said Chief McNamara.

"This will be a major improvement in our ability to compassionately and effectively deal with increasing numbers of mental health calls, all while providing services that can help reduce such calls for service by getting those in need connected with community resources."

The grant funding comes in addition to a $550,000 Justice Mental Health Collaborative Partnership grant from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance that will also help to fund the creation of the community response team, and which will fund the creation of a community support center in Methuen to bolster behavioral health services to those within the community.

The Community Support Center will provide Methuen Police a place where officers can refer individuals who are suffering from substance use or other behavioral health challenges for follow up care that includes post-crisis outreach, and supports that include peer support, benefits support, social determinants support, and therapy. It is expected to be opened by October of 2024.

The co-response clinician and Community Response Team are expected to be working by early 2024, with additional programming and resources rolling out over the next year.

Voter Fraud Investigation in Lawrence ... AGAIN!

(prestando attencione!)

PAYING ATTENTION!

with Tom Duggan

Just a few short days before Election Day in Lawrence, a video went viral on social media, reportedly showing a campaign volunteer for a city council candidate stealing absentee ballots from people's mailboxes.

The video shows a woman - well known in Lawrence political circles, getting out of a red car, going onto a neighbor's porch with something in her hand to make it look like she is delivering a parcel of mail. But, when she gets to the mailbox she takes out the absentee ballot and then gets back into the red vehicle to drive away.

Sources at the Lawrence Police Department say that the person driving that red vehicle was caught on a city camera at the next intersection after the mailbox theft, and that the person driving the getaway car is one of Lawrence's newly elected city councilors.

So, I called the new Police Chief, William Castro to ask him if he is investigating this allegation of voter fraud, and whether or not they have a city council candidate on the city cameras driving the getaway car.

Here's what he said:

"The Lawrence Police Department is presently assisting with an investigation into allegations of mail fraud."

"The Lawrence Police Department received two complaints about stolen mail-in ballots, and we called the District Attorney's office, Secretary of State Bill Galvin's Office, and the Post Office to investigate. Secretary Galvin's Office has assigned the case to District Attorney Paul Tucker, who is actively investigating the complaint. This is an active investigation."

Castro would not admit that it was a newly elected councilor caught on the city's camera system, but one source close to the investigation said that the plate number and occupants of the vehicle have been easily identified.

Experts in election fraud told the Valley Patriot after the incident that even if the voter fraud was committed by a successful candidate for city council, and even if that person is arrested and convicted, there is no mechanism whereby that elected official can be removed from office, or prevented from being sworn in come January.

In fact, no elected official has ever been removed from office, - or prevented from taking office - for engaging in voter fraud, or any fraud for that matter.

That means the newly elected councilor who drove the getaway car in this case, can take office in January and serve out the two-year term she was elected to serve, regardless of what the criminal justice system does to her and her cohort for stealing absentee ballots.

DEMOCRATS ADMIT VOTER FRAUD EXITS

The fact that voter fraud is often alleged in the City of Lawrence seems to fly in the face of everything the ruling Democrat Party claims at the national level year after year.

For 19+ years, this newspaper has documented voter fraud in Lawrence, and described in detail various elections where even the elected democrats in Lawence themselves, openly talk about such fraud and how voter ID is needed in the city.

When former Mayor Willie Lantigua ran for reelection and faced challenger Dan Rivera, the Rivera campaign enlisted the help of the entire leadership of the Democrat party to descend onto Lawrence "to make sure Lantigua doesn't cheat this time".

And, when that race was decided by a very close margin in favor of Rivera, a recount took place where, again Rivera's campaign enlisted the help of every democrat party operative in the state to come back to Lawrence and make sure "Willie doesn't cheat again".

Now, why would all of that happen if there was no such thing as voter fraud? Why did Niki Tsongas and Marc DiSalvo, and the Secretary of State's office have to assign political operatives to "make sure Willie doesn't cheat" if voter fraud doesn't take place?

RACIST VOTER ID?

Lawrence Mayor Dan Rivera, State Rep. Marcos Devers, and even Frank Moran (at the time) all advocated for Voter ID to stop the fraud in Lawrence while their Democrat Party leaders continued to repeat the propaganda talking points that voter ID was "racist" and voter fraud "doesn't exist".

Just imagine!

The Democrat Party leaders with all their wealth and white privilege, telling all those Latino voters and elected officials in Lawrence that their efforts to implement voter ID is "racist" and that the voter fraud they see with their own eyes "does not exist." It's astounding.

What's even more astounding is that Dominican citizens can vote in Lawrence for their Dominican president and congress, and cannot vote without showing a voter ID.

EXPOSING THE LIES

The fact is, Lawrence voters have long known voter ID is necessary and that voter fraud exists. Yet they continue to support the democrat party despite these lies from their own leaders.

"But Tom," the ignorant and partisan hacks will say. "Why hasn't the voter fraud in Lawrence been prosecuted? If all this fraud exists where are the criminal cases?"

It's because elected officials in the democrat party have removed all the mechanism to prosecute or prove most instances of voter fraud. For example: as part of Ted Kennedy's "Motor Voter" bill, it is illegal for election officials to remind people that they have to be an American citizen to sign up to vote. It's illegal to question their citizenship or their eligibility.

That means if the election worker knows someone lives in Methuen and is trying to register to vote in Lawrence to affect the next election, there's literally

FRAUD: PAGE 16

RUN FOR THE TROOPS 5K

Check the Run For The Troops website for ALL the details!
www.runforthetroops5K.com

SPONSORED BY

Law Office of
Douglas M. Mercurio, P.C.

978.276.3100

MecurioLaw.com

SHAKING SEAFOOD

369 S Broadway, Salem, NH 03079 * 603-450-8888 * shakingseafoodnh.com * OPEN: Sun. - Thurs. Noon – 9:30PM *Fri. - Sat. Noon – 10:30PM

COOL RIDE? MEET HOT SAVINGS!

Drivers who switched to T.A. Sullivan save up to 20% on auto insurance!

At T.A. Sullivan Agency, we'll compare auto insurance rates and back-to-back coverage options from our trusted network of over 20 affiliate companies and customize a quote that fits your needs and your budget. Award-winning service. Lowest premiums available.

ARBELLA INSURANCE GROUP

Ready to start saving? Get a quote in minutes!

888-987-0505

Habla Español!

Scan to apply online!

TASULLIVANAGENCY.COM

COMPETITIVE COVERAGE THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS

City of Lawrence Mayor Brian Depena Announces...

EMERGENCY PARKING BAN: Alternate Parking on Certain Streets between 12:01 AM to 6AM

The winter alternate parking ordinance shall only take effect during the dates and times specified in a "SNOW AND ICE EMERGENCY" issued by the Mayor or his/her designee, The snow emergency shall remain in effect until the Mayor rescinds it. Notice of any such rescission shall be given in the same manner as the issuance of the declaration.

Winter Alternate Parking shall mean that on the following streets, between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., daily, vehicles shall, unless otherwise prohibited by law, be parked on one side of the street only, so that on the even-numbered dates of the calendar, vehicles shall be parked on the even-numbered sides of the streets, and on the odd-numbered dates of the calendar, they shall be parked on the odd-numbered sides of the streets: ORD 10.36.031 (*IF YOUR STREET IS NOT LISTED BELOW, NO PARKING IS ALLOWED*)

Abbott St
Allen St (*General St To Angle)*
Allston St.
Ames St. *(Riverside Dr. to Haverhill St*
Amesbury St
Amherst St
Appleton St
Atkinson St
Auburn St
Bailey St
Ballard St
Barker St
Barnard St
Basswood St
Bay State Rd *(McFarlin St to Mater St)*
Beacon St
Beaconsfield St
Belknap St
Bellevue St
Bennett St
Bennington St (*Auburn St to Chestnut St)*
Beresford St
Berkeley St
Bigelow St
Blanchard St
Bodwell St
Bowdoin St
Boxford St
Bradford St
Brookfield St
Bruce St
Burke St
Burlington St
Butler St
Byron Ave
Cabot Rd
Cambridge St
Canal St
Canterbury St
Carleton St (Andover St to Everett St)
Carver St
Castle St
Cedar St
Chandler St
Chester St *(*So. Bway. To Dunstable St.)
Chestnut St
Chickering St *(Cutler St. to Pilgrim Rd.)*
Cleveland St
Clifton St
Clinton St
Colonial Dr
Colonial Rd
Colonial Terrace
Columbus Ave *(Haverhill St to Meadow St)*
Concord St
Congress St
Coolidge St
Copley St
County St
Crescent St
Crestwood Cir
Crosby St
Cross St
Cutler St (Chickering St to Marlboro St)
Cyr Drive
Dana St
Danforth St
Dartmouth St
Davis St.
Debbie Lane
Dorchester St
Dracut St (*So. Bway to Dunstable St)*
Dunstable St
Durham St
Durso Ave
East Boxford St
East Boxford Terrace
East Haverhill St
East Kingston St
East Pleasant St
East St
Easton St (*So. Bway to Jefferson St)*
Eastside St
Eaton St
Ellis St
Elm St
Emerald Ave.
Erving Ave
Eutaw St
Everett St
Exeter Pl
Exeter St
Exeter Terrace
Fairmont St
Fallon St
Falmouth St
Farley St
Farnham St
Ferry St
Ferguson St
Forest St
Foster St
Foxcroft St
Franklin St
Frost Dr
Furber St
Garden St
Garfield St (*Cambridge St to Falmouth St)*
Gilbert St
Glenn St
Glenwood Drive
Gorham St
Grafton St
Grainger St
Grant Rd
Green St
Greenfield St
Greenwood St
Groton St
Grove St
Hamlet St
Hancock St
Hawley St
High St (*Except E. Haverhill St to Ferry St)*
Highgate St
Hillside Ave
Howard St
Hudson Ave
Hurst St
Inman St
Jamaica St
Jefferson St
Juniper St. (*For its entire length on Odd Side of street (East Side only during effective period.)*
Kenneth St
Kent St
Kingston St
Laurel St
Lea St
Lebanon St *(Hampshire St to Amesbury St)*
Leeds Ter.
Lenox Circle
Lenox St
Lincoln Ct
Lisa Lane
Lorenzo Rd
Loring Street
Louisburgh St
Lowell St (Lawrence St to W. Lowell St)
Lynn St
Manchester St
Ma**ple St**
Margin St
Marie Lane
Marion Ave (except Holly St to Spicket River)
Marique Dr
Mark Lane
Market St
Marlboro St
Marston St
Martha Lane
Mason St
May St
Medford St
Melrose St
Melvin St
Middlebury St *(Olive Ave to Endicott St)*
Mill St
Milton St (*Haverhill St to Bodwell St)*
Monroe St
Morton St
Mt. Auburn St
Mt. Vernon Cir
Mt. Vernon St
Mt. Vernon Terrace
Newbury St
Newton St
No. Parish Rd
Oak St (*East Haverhill to Short St)*
Oakland Rd
Olive Ave (*W. Lowell St to Ames St)*
Orchard St
Osgood St
Oxford St
Packard St
Patton St
Pembroke Dr
Perry Ave
Philips St
Pilgrim Rd
Pleasant St (*Ferry St to High St)*
Portland St
Powers St
Proctor Rd
Prospect St
Providence St
Railroad St
Richmond St
Rita Lane
Roberta Lane
Rockwood Lane
Rowe St
Russell St
Salem St
Sanborn St
Sargent St
School St
Shattuck St
Shawsheen Rd
Sheridan St
Shepard St
Short St (Chestnut to Maple St)
So. Bowdoin St
Sparkle Drive
Springfield St
Standish Rd
Stevens St (*Mt.Vernon St to Stevens Ave)*
Storrow St
Summer St
Summit Ave
Swan St
Sylvester St
Taft St
Temple St
Tewksbury St
Thomas Rd
Tremont St
Tyler St
Valley St
Vandergrift St
Walnut St
Warren St
Water St
Weare St
West Hawley St
West Kenneth St
Westchester Drive
Westwood Terrace
White St
Whitman St
Wilmot St
Winston Dr
Winter St
Woodland St
Wyman St

ON THE FOLLOWING STREETS BETWEEN 12:01 AM AND 6:00 AM, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, ALTERNATE PARKING WILL BE ENFORCED YEAR-ROUND: ORD 10.36.190

Ames St, from Haverhill St. to Water St.
Andover St
Arlington St, from Broadway to the Methuen Line.
Broadway, from the Methuen Line to Canal St.
Canal St, from Prospect Street to Union St.
Common St.
East Haverhill St, from Steiner St. to Avon St.
Eastside St, entire length.
Essex St.
Ferry St, from Marston St to East Haverhill St.
General Street, from Prospect Street to Union Street.
Hampshire St, from Lawrence St to Arlington St
Hampshire St, from Myrtle St to Canal St.
Hampshire St, from Canal St to Arlington St.
Haverhill St, except from Jackson St to Amesbury St and Broadway.
Jackson St, from Canal St to Kendrick St and from Berkeley Street to Methuen Line.
Lawrence St.
Lowell St, from Ames St to Lawrence St.
Market St, from Loring Street to Parker St.
Merrimack St.
Methuen St, from Broadway to Amesbury St.
Methuen St, from Lawrence St to Union St.
Parker St, from Andover St to Merrimack St
Prospect St, from the Methuen Line to Canal St.
Salem St, from Emmett St to Shawsheen Road, with the exception of that portion of Salem St., between Newton St and Everett St.)
Salem St, from Emmett St to South Union St.
South Broadway
South Union St.
Tremont St, from Hampshire St to West St.
Union St.
Water St, from Ames St to Broadway.
West St.
Winthrop Avenue, from Chickering St to Parker St.

The provisions of this section shall not apply to the portions of the following streets which are designated as State highways:

Jackson Street, north of Berkley Street to Methuen Line-Route 110.
Riverside Drive, west of Ames Street to the Methuen Line.
Winthrop Avenue, from the junction of Osgood Street south to Interstate 495.

ALL NIGHT PARKING PERMITTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

Exterior of **BREEN SCHOOL** – Yard only
CARL LINDQUIST PLAYGROUND –Emmett Street side only
CHARLES STORROW PARK –High Street side only from Pleasant Street southerly to Storrow Terrace
JAMES F. LEONARD SCHOOL PLAYGROUND –South side
ARLINGTON SCHOOL –Arlington Street
Exterior of LAHEY SCHOOL – Yard only
Exterior of ROLLINS SCHOOL – Platt Street only
PARTHUM SCHOOL – Playground area to E. Haverhill Street

It is very important that motorist cooperate and remove their vehicles out of all public areas no later than 7:00 A.M... All vehicles will be towed away at the OWNER'S EXPENSE who fails to comply with the above time schedule. Also, all vehicles immobilized by accident, mechanical, uninsured or uninspected left on all city owned land will be towed at OWNER'S EXPENSE. Any questions, call 978-620-3090 or 978-620-3350.

–Jorge Jaime, Director of DPW

(REVISED DATE 11-16-21)

ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES

BANKRUPTCY * REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING * PERSONAL INJURY

Free consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishoners

SPONSORED BY >>>>>>>>>

RUN FOR THE TROOPS 5K

Check the Run For The Troops website for ALL the details!
www.runforthetroops5K.com

Law Office of Douglas M. Mercurio, P.C.
978.276.3100
MercurioLaw.com | Doug@MercurioLaw.com

EXPERIENCE
INTEGRITY
SERVICE

Representing buyers, sellers, lenders and investors in residential and commercial real estate transactions.

280 Main Street - Suite 104, North Reading, MA 01864

Massachusetts Training Academy

SAFETY FIRST! FIREARMS, CPR, FIRST AID AND TRAUMA SURVIVAL TRAINING

Teaching proper techniques & care for handling firearms & saving lives.
Trained and certified Firearms, CPR and First Aid Training Instructors.
Learn from our top quality instructors with years of in-the-field experience as first responders and medical professionals.

EIS INC.

978-682-5559

eagleinvestigations.com

See our Coupon on Page 22

Alternative House: Empowering All Survivors to Self-Sufficiency

KANE
VALLEY PATRIOT MASCOT/COLUMNIST

Kane learned the following information from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

• Nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States.

• 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experienced some form of physical violence by a partner.

• 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence in their lifetime.

It was Kane's privilege to meet with Maria Crooker-Capon, Executive Director of Alternative House. Maria has worked at Alternative House for 17 years total and has a contagious vibrant personality.

She is passionate about her work and prides herself on creating a strong network of services in the local community by partnering with the police department, City Manager's Office, and many social services agencies. Maria's professional degrees are in Business and Non-Profit Management instead of social work like many nonprofit agencies. Kane thought this was a genius idea since Maria has a lot of energy for networking, social media presence, grant writing, and program management.

Alternative House located in Lowell MA is committed to empowering all survivors of intimate partner violence and other forms of domestic violence to achieve self-sufficiency so they may live in the safe environment deserved by all beings. Founded in 1978, Alternative house has served thousands of survivors of domestic violence in the Greater Lowell area. Kane calculated this as 45 years of working to end domestic violence. Kane said, "this is very impressive and important work."

Founded in 1978, a group of women who took part in the Battered Woman's movement, paved the way for the agency to provide services to thousands of survivors. This original movement was developed to bring awareness and an end to violence against woman. Alternative House is one of three funding agencies of the greater Lowell Evaluation and Advocacy network (GLEAN) which is a high-risk assessment /rapid response team as well as the founder of the city manager's task force against domestic violence. Alternative house is a member of the Jane Joe Incorporated/ Massachusetts coalition.

Maria stated "Our trained domestic violence advocates are available 24 hours a day/7 days a week /365 days a year. Kane learned that to date in 2023, Alternative House has assisted more than 2,000 clients. Maria told Kane that they receive 10 to 15 calls a day needing assistance and often space. Maria explained that the work is very high risk, and they value their partnership with the local police departments as they observe high risk protocols to keep staff and survivors safe. Maria explained to Kane that the model is very "grass roots" as her employees hit the pavement each day. Maria said, "the quicker you get involved with survivors, the sooner they accept services." Kane learned from Maria that the need for safe housing is much greater than the spaces that are available.

Although there are 7,000 emergency beds available in the state only 167 are set aside for domestic violence. Kane learned that Alternative House has 8 funded beds and one that is not funded. It is common that Maria has to pay for emergency safe houses in hotels since the need is so high.

For immediate assistance call the hotline at 1-888-291-6228."

To achieve safety and self-sufficiency, Alternative House not only provides emergency shelter and a 24-hour hotline, but access to safe temporary housing, transitional / permanent housing, legal advocacy, supervised visitation services, housing advocacy, support groups, youth and teen programming, as well as daily access to case management, safety planning, goal setting, financial empowerment, and career planning and placement.

These services are available for all survivors of domestic violence and their children who seek help. Kane was impressed by the space. Maria created a beautiful inviting environment for survivors to meet and children to participate in groups and after-school activities.

Maria explained to Kane that Alternative House is funded by contracts with the office on Violence Against Woman (OVW), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, (DPH), the Massachusetts Office of Grants and Research through the Violence Against Woman, USA Department of Justice, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development for Violence Against Woman Funding.

To donate to Alternative House please visit their website at http://alternative-house.org

In a society that is so busy making a living and trying to get by please don't turn a blind eye when you can help a person in need. Kane reminds you if you see something say something, you could save a life. There is no excuse for abuse.

Sincerely,
Kane Peaslee◊

TOMO Hibachi & Sushi
tomosalem.com

Tomo is the best Japanese Restaurant in N.H. from seafood to dessert to Japanese food, everything looks really delicious. Our food quality, friendly service and cleanliness will exceed your expectations. Servers will continue bringing customers the freshest prepared food of their choice until they are full.

Address: 368 S. Broadway
Salem, NH 03079
Telephone: 603-893-8880

Mon-Thurs: 11am - 10pm
Fri-Sat: 11am - 11:30pm
Sunday: 12noon - 9:30pm

Lawrence Firefighter Paul King Honored by Governor Healey

At the 34th Annual Firefighter of the Year Awards

WORCESTER - MA Governor Maura Healey and State Public Safety Secretary, Terrence Reidy joined State Fire Marshal Jon Davine to honor firefighters from across the state at the 34th annual Firefighter of the Year Awards ceremony, where Lawrence Firefighter Paul King was honored last month.

"Each year, the Firefighter of the Year Awards recognize acts of bravery, heroism, and service that are truly remarkable – even by the remarkable standards set by Massachusetts firefighters," said Governor Healey.

Shortly after midnight on May 22, 2023, the Lawrence Fire Department responded from a nearby box alarm to Haverhill Road near the Spicket River for a reported car over the bridge. On arrival, they found a vehicle upside down in the water. As crews started to don their survival suits, witnesses stated that the driver was drowning. Firefighter Paul King, the chauffeur on Ladder 5, determined that the driver's life was in grave danger.

In his Class B uniform, he fought his way through the fast-moving river, opened the door and found the driver struggling to breathe. Firefighter King pulled the man to safety, and when the man said two others were still inside, he returned to the submerged vehicle ready to make additional rescues. Finding no one, Firefighter King came back to shore and coordinated a high angle technical rescue to raise the patient to EMTs, who were about 15 feet above. Dive teams did an extensive search and fortunately found no indication of anyone else in the water. ◊

Real Estate Law and Estate Planning are What We do!!!

Paul D. Lambert, Esq.

Lambert Law Office, P.C.

844-7REAL LAW (844-773-2552)

Cell 978-609-6420

Visit us at www.LAMBERTLAWOFFICE.COM

401 Andover Street (Rt. 125), Suite 11
North Andover, MA 01845

Assisting people with their Estate Planning & Real Estate Legal Needs for more than 30 Years

The Holiday Season's Most WOW! Magical Event!

American Training Turns Their Andover Location Into A CandyLand Christmas

Andover, MA – Can you feel it in the air? It's WOW! Magic! And American Training, Inc is showcasing this firsthand as they present "A CandyLand Christmas."

American Training, Inc. kicked off this year's Holiday Season on Friday December 1st by inviting members of the community to A Christmas in CandyLand party at their 6 Campanelli Drive, Andover MA. location where they announced being the recipients of the Boston Globe's 2023 "Top Places to Work"; and showcased their lobby - a WOW! Magical destination created with decorations hand crafted by their very own Colleagues, Students, and Guests. Literally transforming their main office location into a giant life sized CandyLand gameboard that you will have to see for yourself to believe. This Extraordinary experience was made complete with Peppermint Forest, Ginger Lane, Chocolate Mountain, Gumdrop Alley, and Ice Cream Peaks, and featured none other than Santa, Mrs. Clause, their Elves, and a slew of WOW! Magical Candy Characters!

American Training will have their A CandyLand Christmas destination open and on display in the lobby of their 6 Campanelli Drive, Andover, location throughout the Holiday Season. If you would like to schedule a group to experience it, and have photos taken with Santa and his cast of CandyLand characters, please reach out to StephanieBradbury@americantraininginc.com.

About American Training

American Training, Inc. is a non-profit organization based in the Merrimack Valley, who for over 40 years, have provided housing, education, training & support services to people with disabilities, youth at risk & adult learners who are looking for a pathway towards a more meaningful life. Annually they provide services to over 1,000 people throughout the Merrimack Valley and beyond. ◊

FRAUD FROM PAGE 9

nothing they can do about it.

Legally, they cannot refuse a voter registration card or even investigate suspected fraud. In fact, they are not even allowed to compare the signature on a mail-in voter registration form with the signatures they already have on file to make sure the new voter registration is legitimate, even if the signature is an obvious forgery.

Furthermore, if you suspect your neighbor is illegally voting and you file a complaint against him, the government charges YOU with voter intimidation instead of investigating the fraudulent voter. So, who is going to bother?

HOW THEY CHEAT

There are a hundred ways to steal votes and change election results. Here at the Valley Patriot, we have witnessed and reported on many of them. The rest of the press won't pick up our stories because it disproves their political narratives.

In one Lawrence election we watched a volunteer from a mayoral campaign sign up to be an election worker at the polls on election day.

Shortly before the polls closed, she would text her friends the names and addresses of people who had not voted, and with a minute or two left before polls closed, her friends would show up using those names and addresses to get a ballot, and vote.

In another election we watched a mayoral campaign go door to door with the city census - which is a public document. The city census lists all residents including non-voters.

The candidate would knock on doors with a "Motor Voter" card and an absentee ballot application and convince nonvoters to sign up to vote and then request an absentee ballot by mail. This was long before COVID was used as an excuse to increase main in ballots.

Then the candidate would go back to those address after the absentee ballots are mailed so they can "help them" vote.

He then offers to drop off their ballot at city hall to save them a stamp. If the new voter didn't vote for that candidate, those ballots never made it to city hall. If they did, those ballots were hand delivered.

In the meantime, while the candidates volunteers were going door to door, anyone with a political sign on their lawn for his opponent, would have their absentee or mail-in ballot taken out of the mailbox (much like the video on social media this year).

When Willie Lantigua first ran for mayor against Dave Abdoo in 2009, Abdoo campaign workers caught Isabel Melendez (Lantigua's manager) on video handing actual ballots to people outside the Mary Immaculate voting precinct with the names of Lantigua and his slate of candidates already filled out.

Candidates would take those ballots into to the polling booth with the ballots that were handed to them by the election workers, use the filled in ballot as a template to fill out the blank ballot, and then put BOTH ballots into the voting machine.

The machine only counts one of those ballots, but if there's a recount or a challenge, all of the ballots in that box - including the fake ones - get taken out and hand-counted. In a close race, those fraudulent ballots make all the difference.

I suspect that happened again this year as Lawrence City Councilor Rich Russell has now reported a discrepancy in the total number of ballots cast.

"After looking at the purge list and the 'official results' of the election, I find that according to the official results, 5,169 ballots were cast; yet when I look at the 'purge list' I find that only 5,021 residents of Lawrence voted, for a difference of 148 votes."

The "purged list" is the list of names crossed off on election day as each voter gives their name and address to election workers.

Considering one Lawrence City Council race was decided by only 5 votes, and several other races were decided by less than 100 votes, those additional 148 ballots would have made all the difference.

DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH

Having said all of this it's pretty clear that the woman in the video stealing absentee ballots and the city council candidate driving the getaway car will probably face no consequences for committing election fraud.

If the Democrat Secretary of State, and the Democrat District Attorney, and the Democrat Attorney General - were to actually file charges and make a public claim of election fraud against these two political operatives, it would blow the democrat party narrative that voter fraud is nothing but a "republican talking point".

They would have to publicly interview witnesses in court about HOW elections are - and have been - stolen in Lawrence over the years, and who has been responsible for said fraud.

Trust me when I tell you, NOBODY in government wants that to happen. Nobody.

So, you can bet that once again, this will all go away quietly, and end up among the many stories people tell about all the stolen elections in Lawrence. All the while the media and the democrat party repeat the lie that voter fraud doesn't exist.

In the meantime, I want to encourage every level of law enforcement to defy the political puppet -masters of the democrat party and expose every single detail of the many instances of voter fraud that have taken place in Lawrence over the last few years.

But, I'm not holding my breath.

afc URGENT CARE american family care
380 Merrimack St, Methuen * (978) 975-0700

A Dracut Carol

Philippe Thibault
VALLEY PATRIOT DRACUT CONTRIBUTOR

For all that Dracut must be thankful for, it must be an abundance of characters that can fit the bill to host its own version of A Christmas Carol. There are the masses of workers that can portray the faithful and unappreciated clerk Bob Cratchit. I see so many of them when I go to Town Hall to pay a tax bill and sewer bill, check on a building permit application, or the Town Clerk's office to obtain a town document. They are "as good as gold and better." There are so many merchants who take this time of year to "make some slight provision for the poor and destitute, who suffer greatly at the present time."

The starring role of Ebeneezer Scrooge would be portrayed by a few select members of the community. Okay, okay, I know that was a coy remark. Unlike Scrooge, I am not convinced that the souls of these individuals can be redeemed through the visitation of three spirits; although that is what the Christmas Season is all about. We have recently seen the Town Manager in the role of the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come with the dire outlook for next year's town budget. We can hope these are only the shadows of what may be and not what shall be. But with her discussions of trash fees, stormwater fees, and proposition two and a half overrides, the whole town is saying "Bah Humbug." We need a little Christmas right now.

Nothing cheers the heart at Christmas time like seeing a mountain of presents under the Christmas Tree. Let us peek and unwrap a few.

Selectwoman Heather Santiago-Hutchings has a gift of her choice of sub-committee assignments. She has been denied her choices by the dictates of Chair Alisson Genest, perhaps Genest feels intimidated by Heather.

Genest ran as a political newcomer in her first election. It is obvious that she was a newcomer to the arena, but she was not a novice to the political game. Promises and favors need to be honored above the service to Dracut. Heather has served the Town on various committees prior to being elected and recently re-elected to the Board of Selectmen. Heather's knowledge, if well utilized, will put the Town in a position to thrive.

Selectman Tony Archinski has a present with a bow, another ally on the Board of Selectman. Tony and Heather have been in the minority while trying to make the Board more accountable to the citizens of Dracut. Tony's motion to create a code of conduct was met with contempt and disdain. The Troika would not have their shenanigans tempered by a mere "piece of paper." Just remember that Santa keeps a list and is checking it twice.

Town Manager, Ann Vandal, has a stocking filled with coins exhumed from every sofa cushion and rear car seat in the town of Dracut. In the hopes of balancing an increasingly stressed budget, Ann has recently resurrected the notions of user fees. These include a trash collection fee, a stormwater fee and the most profane, a Proposition 2 ½ override for operational expenses. Dracut has in the past supported debt exclusions for specific items, most recently a high school renovation and addition. That was a decade ago and another school renovation project is winding its way through the feasibility phase. Will the town support one along with the other?

Jennifer Kopcinski, selectwoman, has a small envelope with a ticket for the Polar Express. She could be Dracut's Hero Girl, Holly. And her ticket is punched with the word COURAGE. When elected to the Board of Selectman she proclaimed that she would remain an independent voice. She has been the third vote of "Town Hall West," an organization akin to Ian Fleming's SPECTRE. Their role is to secure power and influence for favored individuals in town who pay tribute to them.

Selectman Joseph DiRocco has a set of curtains from which to operate and shield his activities from public view and scrutiny. Joe's story could be one of inspiration to many, but for the choices he has made due to the influence he gathered.

A volunteer firefighter rising to Fire Chief and then Selectman, all through political influence and to maintain his stranglehold he wields merciless vengeance to his foes. Fear is his legacy. Visits from three spirits may not be enough to sponge away the writing on that stone.

Selectman Chair Alison Genest, a cap 'n bells hat and marotte. She has inserted her opinion into every facet of town government, not because she has knowledge, but rather because she was elected. In her mind being elected is the quintessential apex of knowledge.

Genest has claimed to be a higher authority for town planning than the planning board itself. "Afterall they are only appointed, and we are elected officials." Genest has turned the excellent work of a Zoning Bylaw Review Committee on its head.

While the ZBRC contemplates smart and reasonable growth for Dracut, Genest laments that the community is overdeveloped. She even advocates against the Committee she appointed herself to during Town Meeting. When asked to consider a consultant and an elected Charter Committee to review the Town Charter, she gestured to her laptop. Somehow her thirty second Google search outweighs thirty years of experience.

Can you imagine there is even a gift for me? It is labeled, "Do Not Open Till Election Day." I think I will give that one to someone else this year. ◊

Methuen Police Officers Manny Suarez and Jesse Fabian were invited to attend a special birthday celebration for a young boy named Leudis Valeriano. Leudis is a very big fan of the police and hopes to be a police officer some day. When officers heard about this, Officers Suarez and Fabian were happy to stop by and say hi and get their photo with the prospective law enforcement officer.

HAPPY 11TH BIRTHDAY TO

AFC URGENT CARE
NORTH ANDOVER!

Stadium Chiropractic

NEW LOCATION! 2 DURSO AVE
BEHIND TACO BELL IN LAWRENCE

Dr. John Armano is pleased to announce the opening of Stadium Chiropractic PC located at 2 Durso Ave in Lawrence, adjacent to the Registry of Motor Vehicles behind Taco Bell. Dr. John Armano has been serving the Merrimack Valley for the past 31 years specializing in injury rehab sports medicine, as well as pain management for acute and chronic conditions. Dr. Cindy Armano has been serving Boston's North shore for the past 31 years also specializing in injury rehab, as well as family care and nutritional counseling. PHONE: (508) 350-7036. Se Habla Espanol.

ZANNI & PESCE
LAW OFFICES
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY
www.zannipescelaw.com
Free Consultation | 978-557-9700
St. Lucy Parishioners

WILLS & TRUSTS ARE WHAT WE DO!!!

Every day when we walk out the door, there is always the possibility that it may be our "last" time. You wouldn't walk out the door without your wallet; if you fail to plan for your Family's future, that's exactly what you may be doing.

Paul D. Lambert, Esq.
Law Office of Paul D. Lambert
844-7REAL LAW (844-773-2552)
Cell 978-609-6420
LambertLawOffice.net
401 Andover St., Ste. 201-B, No. Andover, MA 01845
Wills, Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Health Care Proxies
Since 1990, assisting people with their Estate Planning Legal needs
Make Attorney Paul D. Lambert *Your Family's Lawyer* TM

NELF Files Brief to Assist MA Land Court After U.S. Supreme Court's Tyler Decision

Governement's Must Refund Money From Properties Taken in Tax Title

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Land Court finds itself in a quandary that the New England Legal Foundation (NELF – www.newenglandlegal.org) helped to create. Earlier this year, the US Supreme Court issued its decision in Tyler v. Hennepin County, 598 U.S. 631 (2023), a Minnesota tax case in which NELF filed an earlier amicus friend-of-the-court brief supporting the taxpayer. The Supreme Court held that when property is taken to pay delinquent taxes, any value above the tax belongs to the taxpayer and cannot be kept by the government. Like the law of some other states, Massachusetts law has long permitted government to keep the entire value of the property. To do so is now unconstitutional.

In a tax case called Town of Tyngsborough v. Recco, the Land Court justice asked NELF and several others to advise whether there may be a way for it to serve two masters, i.e., Tyler and current state law. Can it foreclose on the property and pass title to the town without denying the taxpayer her right to her home equity?

In its brief, NELF suggests a way. It notes that one isolated sentence in the law is responsible for government's obtaining the unconstitutional "absolute" title. NELF calls attention to the Court's statutory duty to try to save partly unconstitutional statutes if possible. NELF argues that the sentence may permissibly be severed because to do so would not harm the rest of the statute or related statutes. With the sentence gone, the town would be able to obtain (non-absolute) title and sell the property for the taxes, while the Court could rule that the taxpayer retains an enforceable equitable interest in all sale proceeds above the taxes.

NELF emphasizes that the severance, so far from re-writing the law, would accomplish the state Legislature's two prime purposes of facilitating the collection of delinquent taxes while protecting the interests of the taxpayer.

NELF President Dan Winslow commented, "Cities and towns need the ability to collect and enforce payment of local taxes to pay for important services like police, firefighters and teachers. But such enforcement must respect the property rights of homeowners by preserving home equity value once all taxes are paid. NELF's proposed approach solves the issue in Massachusetts."

About the New England Legal Foundation

Founded in 1977, the New England Legal Foundation (NELF – www.newenglandlegal.org) is the leading non-partisan, non-profit public interest law firm in the region dedicated to economic liberty. NELF's ongoing mission is to champion free enterprise, property rights, limited government based on rule of law, and inclusive economic growth. We believe that free enterprise is a foundational value of a democratic society and the best opportunity for people to lift themselves to prosperity. ◊

Are Liberals Giving a Free Pass to the Bidens' Misdeeds?

Kenneth Willette
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

Finally, a liberal at the Washington Post (WP) has called for the retirement of Joe Biden. You know that you are in deep trouble with the Democratic Party hierarchy when a WP writer-- who has forever served as the message board of the Democratic National Committee (DNC)-- begs you not to run for re-election. Even former Obama campaign guru David Axelrod recently announced that the Democratic Party should look at alternatives to Biden.

This reversal is sad, pathetic, and ironic all at the same time, because the DNC and Obama's team dragged Biden out of his Delaware basement to run for president. They sought a useful tool who could easily be manipulated to promote their radical agenda.

To borrow lyrics from the play Hamilton, I would have loved to have been 'in the room where it happened'--- when Hillary Clinton specifically learned that the DNC kingmakers didn't want a second disastrous run from her. Even downtrodden Nixon earned another chance to run in 1968, after enduring campaign losses for POTUS and California Governor.

Poor Hillary, outfoxed by Obama twice. But, in a major fashion, weren't female Democrats also hoodwinked by the Democratic establishment? I mean, to this very day, Hillary still gives speeches about how the 2016 election was stolen from her. So much for breaking that glass ceiling.

But now the proverbial storm clouds have formed over 1600 Penn, with no foreseeable end in sight. The whole mantra that Biden offers proven, decades-long leadership is expiring like sour milk left in the sun. It is mindboggling that there are still many liberal female supporters of Biden when you learn more each day about Hunter's escapades and Joe's epic foreign policy failures.

Hunter is the piece of work who impregnated a stripper, initially refused to pay her child support, fired her from his company, removed insurance coverage for both her and his child, and still found time for a dalliance with his brother's widow. Only recently has Grandpa Joe acknowledged his latest grandchild. Meanwhile, Hunter allegedly perjured himself on a gun application while high on cocaine, and his gun was abandoned near a high school attended by young females. Real Father of the Year material here.

A separate column would have to be written to discuss the crossroads between Hunter's alleged tax evasion felonies, his hack job with Burisma and his father's role as point person for Ukrainian policy in the Obama White House. Because conservatives are bringing the popcorn when Hunter is subpoenaed before Congress to testify during the impeachment inquiry. And remember, executive privilege doesn't apply to private individuals.

Where is the indignation from Leftist women when Biden released $6 billion in frozen assets to Iran so soon after the beating death of Mahsa Amini, whose only crime was not wearing the mandatory hijab and instead displaying tight trousers. Thousands of Iranians have apparently died in vain protesting the reactionary Islamic codes of the Iranian theocracy over the last 10 years, simply because Biden caved into the hostage demands of the Ayatollah—the world's biggest sponsor of terror.

But notice how the liberal media suddenly grew tired of covering the internal struggles and nationwide protests breaking out in Iran. Maybe because it doesn't fit into the scripted narrative of Joe's efforts to restore the fundamentally flawed Iranian nuke deal, and the diplomatic treachery of his team in releasing blood money for

hostages used as pawns. How did that ultimately work for Joe in Russia, who secured the release of Brittney Griner (but not a wrongfully incarcerated former Marine), in exchange for a notorious arms dealer whose blood trade killed countless innocent men, women and children? And isn't Putin once again taking advantage of Biden by showcasing a jailed Wall Street Journal reporter as an international pawn? Seems like an endless cycle of Jimmy Carter-style weakness. Foreign policy disasters and hyperinflation—tell me history doesn't repeat itself.

Unfortunately, Joe has a sordid history of abandoning women like his son. Instead of maintaining a Green Zone in Kabul-- like the Green Zone in Baghdad-- for US troops to tackle remaining ISIS terrorists and Taliban fighters, Biden left billions of dollars in weaponry and vehicles to the Taliban government. This is the same Taliban government that has essentially banned women from attending schools, forced them to have male chaperones to travel and totally removed them from the government and the economy. Now millions of women and young girls suffer from food insecurity. They are relegated to non-citizen status and are fearful of a dystopian future.

Female voters must recall how Obama sarcastically yet erroneously called ISIS a JV team—the same team that established a massive caliphate in the Middle East, executed thousands in religious jihad and created sexual slaves of Yazidi Kurdish women. The ISIS leader at the time, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, savagely raped and subsequently murdered captive American aid worker, Kayla Mueller.

In fact, Kayla's family begged the Obama White House to seek her release, and there was high confidence within the military that a special forces extraction mission could be conducted successfully.

Obama never authorized the mission, and an American life was senselessly lost forever. The Leftist voting bloc is so loathsome of Trump that they give him no credit when he sent in special forces to kill the mass murderer al-Baghdadi and utilized the full fury of US forces to annihilate ISIS as a regional threat. I am pretty sure Joe doesn't care either.

Many Leftists worship at the altar of climate change and curse any fossil fuels in our economy. And yet, despite an abundance of natural resources throughout our country, no one on the Left blinked when Joe pleaded the Saudis for oil—a country that just recently allowed women to drive (but still no voice in national elections). Strange political bedfellows—Democratic woman voters and their advocacy of the Bidens. ◊

EIS INC.

Consulting, Firearm Training Investigations & Security

eagleinvestigations.com

978-682-5559

236 A Pleasant St.
Methuen, MA 01844

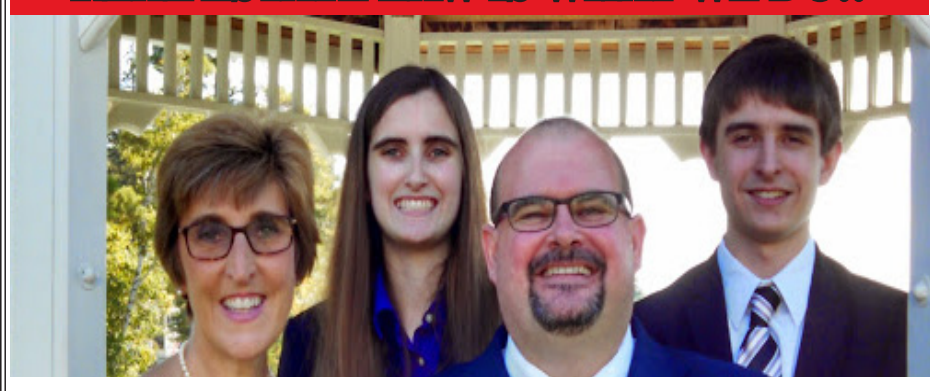
Specializing In...

Firearm Training

$10 OFF with this coupon

Coupon Code: VPBFS072020 * valid until Dec. 8, 2023

REAL ESTATE LAW IS WHAT WE DO!!



Are you a 1st Time Home Buyer? Empty Nester? Buying that Vacation Home? Looking to Invest in Real Estate? That New Dream Home?

GET THE EXPERIENCE YOU NEED AND THE CUSTOMER SERVICE YOU DESERVE

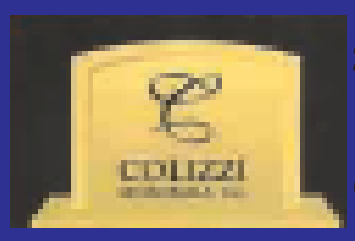
REAL ESTATE LAW

Paul D. Lambert, Esq. – Law Office of Paul D. Lambert
844-REAL LAW (844-773-2552)
WWW.LAMBERTLAWOFFICE.NET

More than 25 years serving the Real Estate legal needs of Buyers and Sellers in MA, NH, RI and ME

Paul D. Lambert, Esq. – Law Office of Paul D. Lambert

LambertLawOffice@gmail.com LambertLawOffice.net
401 Andover Street, Suite 201-B, P.O. Box 892, North Andover, MA 01845
Toll Free 844-REAL LAW (844-773-2552) Cell 978-609-6420 Fax 877-396-5164



Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA 01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com

COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP

AFFORDABLE PRICES

MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier Memorial Provider *

Independently owned and operated. Not affiliated with any other corporation

J & W Shoe Repair and Leather Service

All Kinds of Shoe & Leather Repairs
* Pocketbook Refurbishing
* Custom Shoe Dying
* Orthopedic Shoes
* Suitcase & Luggage Repair
* All Kinds of Zipper Repair
* Name Brand Pocketbook Repair

We are offering pick up and drop off services

We are offering 25% more volume on all gift certificates

23 Years of services to our community!
Please support your LOCAL BUSINESSES!!

139 Main St., North Andover, (978) 685-2325 - OPEN: Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5pm & Sat. 8:30 - 4pm

HEROES AND BOZOS OF 2023

SHANNON O'BRIEN

DIANA DIZOGLIO

ADRIENNE RAMOS

JANA ZANNI PESCE

JIM MCCARTY

NEIL PERRY

JOYCE COMPAGNONE

METHUEN SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

LAWRENCE CITY COUNCILOR RICH RUSSELL

HERO - MARIA DE LA CRUZ

HAVEHRIL CITY COUNCILORS MINUS ONE

TRAM NGUEN - Won't come to see or help homeless because it's "not in my district"

HERO SENATOR PAVEL PAYANO

BOZO SENATOR PAVEL PAYANO

Saying goodbye to the Claddagh

outgoing officials and their legacy

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

Founder of The Movement Family (TMF) Michael Gorman (of Methuen) with Acting Lawrence Police Cheif William Castro and artist Jefte Santos. The Acting Chief was on had last month to support the weekly "Family Dinner for the Homeless" at the Buckley Garage on Common Street in Lawrece. The Dinners take place from 9-11pm every Wednesday evening. "It was really special to have the new chief join us tonight" Gorman said.

WINSTON SAYS!

Thank you Councilor Maria De La Cruz for years of service to the city of Lawrence!

Sponsored by: THE DAILY DOSE CAFE at PENTUCKET MEDICAL IN LAWRENCE * 978-557-8601

Calling trump supporters nazis but not actual nazis

Ron Marsan & Son
Ron: (978) 815-6935 Jon: (978) 764-2945
General Contractors
RonMarsanAndSon@Yahoo.com

Sue Piazza's Book Reviews

8 Marblehead St.
N. Andover, MA 01845

EKeys 4cars

www.EKeys4Cars.com

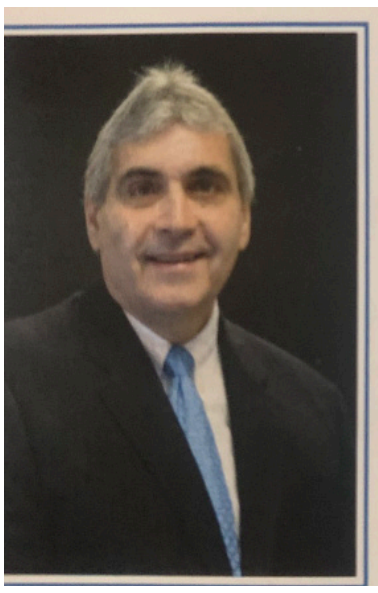
Why Pay More? We're the Car Key Experts!

WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY!
SPARE KEYS AND REMOTES!

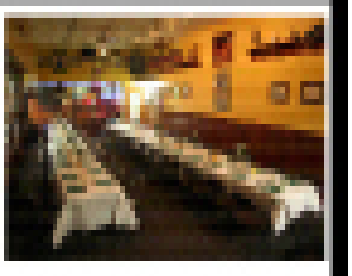
(978) 655-3135
(888)-55-EKEYS
Jim@EKeys4Cars.com

$10 OFF
Any Transponder Key
Not valid with any other discount
Limit 1 coupon per purchase & per transaction

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
380 Merrimack St, Methuen * (978) 975-0700



Mike Sullivan
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Cell: 978-204-2758
Email: sull33@aol.com

The Claddagh Pub & Restaurant Inc
599 Canal St, Lawrence
978-688-8337
Great food, Music and Atmosphere.
Great Charity Event Packages Available.
Private Functions Up to 600 Accommodated.
Call Paul 978-423-1001
Best Party Packages in the Merrimack Valley
#1 Party Package in Merrimack Valley
Private Room
40 to 80 people
Hint of Italy Buffet
Sound System and Mic
(Include Podcast Access to Live Entertainment in Main Room)

Trivia Nights Wednesdays
www.thecladdaghpub.com

Michael A. Colizzi: President
217 Merrimack St. Methuen, MA 01844 Phone: (978) 674-7035
Fax: (978) 674-7037
Colizzimemorials@comcast.net
www.colizzimemorials.com
COLIZZI MEMORIALS

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP
AFFORDABLE PRICES
MONUMENT SALES
CEMETERY LETTERING
BRONZE MARKERS
CIVIC MEMORIALS
MAUSOLEUMS
COLUMBARIUMS
MONUMENT CLEANING

Merrimack Valley's Premier Memorial Provider *
Independently owned and operated. Not affiliated with any other corporation

American Training, Inc.
Bringing Out the Best in Everyone We Touch, Since 1979
Because Every Life Matters!
"American Training is a leader in delivering premier, award-winning workforce development, day habilitation, work and residential programs."
-Thomas M. Connors, President and CEO
AMERICAN TRAINING
"American Training has developed an innovative and creative mission statement concept titled WOW! Magic. That inspires Colleagues, volunteers, and service users of the organization to experience exceptional outcomes"
-CARF International
WOW MAGIC
WWW.AMERICANTRAININGINC.COM
Become a Part of the WOW! Magic Today!

HOME | AUTO | COMMERCIAL | LIFE
See What PRIME Can Do For You
PRIME INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
978.685.9999
The Right Coverage. The Right Price. The Right Value.
www.PrimeHomeandAuto.com
Quotes@PrimeHomeandAuto.com
401 Andover Street - Suite 201A, North Andover, MA 01845

Law Office of Douglas M. Mercurio, P.C.
EXPERIENCE
INTEGRITY
SERVICE
978.276.3100
MercurioLaw.com | Doug@MercurioLaw.com
Representing buyers, sellers, lenders and investors in residential and commercial real estate transactions.
280 Main Street - Suite 104, North Reading, MA 01864

BENEATH THE SURFACE WITH PAUL MURANO

What if God Was One of Us?

Let's play an imagination game. Let's imagine that the invisible almighty Creator of the universe, who infinitely transcends the created order of time, space and matter, decided to become part of His creation. Like an author who writes Himself into his own novel, or an artist who paints himself into his own masterpiece, let's imagine the God of the universe chose to become part of His creation.

Impossible, you might say. How could an eternal spiritual being that transcends creation possibly become so diminished as to enter space and time to become a mortal finite being? We could ask a similar question about the painter or the author. How could one possibly become a two dimensional being on a canvas or the other a character that comes alive within the pages of a book? Yet, in both instances, they are able to do it. The analogy for the eternal almighty Creator holds: It is possible to exist in two different dimensions, in two realms of reality (time and eternity), simultaneously.

And then, if this were to ever occur, if God were to become a mere human being – "If God was one of us" as pop singer Joan Osborne once imagined – wouldn't everyone's natural reaction be absolute awe? Wow. It would seem everyone's first priority, by far, would be eagerly to know what He said and did. What could be more important?

Let us take stock of all the world's great religious leaders in history. Have any of them made such an unimaginably lofty claim? Buddha never said he was God. Nor did Abraham or Moses claim divinity. Mohammed never made such a claim, nor did the Dalai Lama, Mani, Lao Tzu, or Confucius.

Every other religious leader claimed to have an enlightened message or a way of life to share; but none of them claimed to come down from Heaven to take on a human nature – except for Jesus. Virtually all non-Christian scholars concur that Jesus was a historical person and that He claimed to be God. Indeed, He is the only bona fide religious leader in history to make this claim.

This must be taken further. By following reason, one must consider the meaning of this unfathomable claim. One conclusion we can be certain of, without any religious faith, is that Jesus cannot be what most non-Christians claim Him to be: merely an enlightened teacher or prophet. That's because, as C.S. Lewis once pointed out, for someone to claim to be God, and if that claim is false, he would have to be either a liar or a lunatic. In other words, if the claimant isn't God he's either delusional or evil. Logic dictates, therefore, that if Jesus is not what He said He was, He could never be trusted as a teacher or prophet.

Since logic limits the possibilities of Jesus' true identity to Lord, liar, or lunatic, let us look at them a little closer. Would a liar possess the moral character of Jesus? Would a deliberate deceiver hold to His principles unto death if he could have slivered out of it as a skilled liar? And could such a lie last over two millennia? Most lies are uncovered rather quickly. The next option, being crazy or delusional, would elicit as little trust as being a liar. And could someone who is mentally deranged be so lucid in His parables and sermons, and so masterful in His verbiage when stumping the Scribes and Pharisees – who at the time, themselves, were masters of self-serving deception? Any honest person who reads the gospels, with or without faith, knows that Jesus was neither a liar nor a lunatic.

This leaves only one viable option, only one possibility for Jesus' true identity: He is the incarnate God who came down from Heaven to reconcile us to the Father for our eternal salvation. No other option is feasible.

During this Advent and Christmas season it is fitting to express that awe mentioned above: Awe that the one God of the universe was born to the world, through Mary, in the small Middle-Eastern town of Bethlehem. As we celebrate the birthday of the incarnate second Person of the Trinity, there's no time like the present to make a (deeper) commitment to know and love the God who humbled Himself to become human, to suffer and to die in order to conquer death for the rest of us.

Merry Christmas and happy newness of life.

Paul Murano is producer and host of Beneath the Surface video podcast, and has taught college philosophy & theology for over 15 years. Check out his website and youtube channel at www.Paulmurano.com and www.Youtube.com/Veritas3737. E-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com

THE DOCTOR IS IN!

Lives Destroyed

Dr. Pierre Ghassibi
VALLEY PATRIOT MEDICAL COLUMNIST

I do believe that we have to have more wisdom and not only apply in life what we were brainwashed to automatically apply. A specialist doctor should not see his own specialty in every patient that comes through the door. We should not diagnose everybody with a heart disease just because we are a cardiologist. It is happening all the time. Sorry for saying this, but I have seen the damages that we cause. Let me explain.

As an example:

I really saw very many kids go crazy and get life disorientation when they go through the change. It is known that the sex hormones mess up the brain at the beginning, even in animals (I saw documentaries about this happening in young dolphins and elephants).

When children are having adjustment problems, they are often taken to a psychiatrist. They get started on meds, psych meds, antidepressants, addictive tranquilizers, stimulants, or antipsychotics.

These are not always very effective in curing the "illness ", so on the second visit, more meds are added.

Some children, with time, get interested in the relationships they are having, the studies or the job, or maybe a hobby. They stop the meds and end up living a normal life.

Other kids and parents get afraid of stopping the medications and stick with the psychiatrists and the medical system. The meds are numbing chemicals. These kids stay on them and become zombies. These same meds increase appetite, and so now, we get into obesity, poor self-esteem, joint pains, diabetes, high blood pressure, abuse, sleep apnea and persistent depression. Their life is ruined.

I am not against psychiatric help at all, but this is happening and is cruel and it is happening more than you think. There is no blood test for bipolar disorders, and we are always told that we, doctors, miss making the correct diagnoses. To avoid blame, we feel proud that now we are diagnosing them, often, even when they are not there. A little anger, a little misbehavior is not due to a bipolar disorder diagnosed and treated for life.

Both parents and doctors want a fast fix because handling difficulties in life is very stressful and we are all busy. So, it is easier to turn the child into a drugged zombie and keep the child out of our busy difficult life. Sad!

I was in Spain over the summer. In Spain, you have to have a special visit with your primary care physician (PCP) once a year with the main reason to reconsider your diagnosis and review your meds. This should be done even more often, but they do it at least once a year. Many of us doctors here in the US

Property Sales, Foreclosures for NOV., 2023 in Andover, Lawrence, Methuen, North Andover. (All properties are listed in order; seller, buyer, price, address.)

Northern Essex Registry of Deeds

M. Paul Iannuccillo, Register

William Francis Galvin
Secretary of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts

ANDOVER

Kevin J & Regina Sullivan, Carolyn Kelly & Thomas Edward Kelly III, $3,175,000, 7 West Hollow

Joanne & Robert M Powell Jr Trs & Joanne M Powell Revocable Trust-2004, Smart Cruise LTD, $2,370,000, 32 Bancroft Rd

Leonilda Soares, Joseph & Amanda Cartolano, $2,100,000, 6 High Meadow Rd

Thomas E Kelly III & Carolyn B Kelly, Jennifer & Craig Schroeder, $1,785,250, 6 Monarch Ln

Peter V & Loyce A Lawlor, Daniel S & Lauren Hernandez, $1,450,000, 284 North Main St

Yvon Cormier Tr & CA Investment Trust, David B Chan & Kelly B Whelan Chan, $1,350,000, 10 Robert Dr Unit 3-4

Bartlet Five Nine LLC, Ciara Dimou & Gabrielle Russo, $1,300,000, 59 Bartlet St

U S Bank Trust NA Tr, Peter Van Nguyen & Kate Xuan Vo, $1,285,000, 261 River Rd

Thomas G Sullivan Tr & Sullivan Family Trust, Douglas H & Sandra A Dukeshire Trs & Dukeshire Real Estate Trust, $1,200,000, 255-257-261 High Plain Rd

Laurie A Wallace, Donald & Laura Ritchie, $1,056,000, 6 Cameron Rd

Shilpa & Ananta Chakravartula, Khoa Anh Nguyen & Chi Khanh Vo, $1,045,000, 20 Birch Rd

Joshua & Meghan Hill/Meghan Kenny & Michael & Katherine Kenny, Andrew & Cassandra Silberman, $1,025,000, 22 Fosters Pond Rd

Helmut Floesser, Ameya Mulye & Sayali Vaidya, $995,000, 7 Sheridan Rd

Richard G & Maureen Keller, Dimitris Saragas, $936,000, 20 County Rd

Eileen Glynn Tr & 22 Strawberry Hill Road Realty Trust, Scott Hospod & Kendall Connor, $904,625, 22 Strawberry Hill Rd

Mark T & Kathryn E Nogueira, John T & Carolyn B O'Rourke, $885,000, 96 Elm St

Dylan Ethan LLC, Di Shen & Jiuyang Bai, $880,000, 76 Wild Rose Dr

Tsz Yip & Karen Cui/Karen Yip, Manuel & Sarah Walsh, $860,000, 20 Osgood St

Dwain K Dorsey Tr & Alma Kay Dorsey Est & Dorsey Living Trust & Joseph A Dorsey Est/Jospeh A Dorsey Jr Est/Joseph Arthur Dorsey Est & Joseph & Alma Dorsey Irrevocable Trust / & Kyle Dorsey, Cristina DesLoges & Barry J O'Neil Jr, $852,500, 4 Talbot Rd

Rachel C Keegan, Xuezhen & Xuejin Wang, $850,000, 64 Morton St

William W & Clare E Wood, Taylor & Daniel Oregan, $849,000, 4 Maple Ave

Robert A & Jennifer A DeSantis, Hannah Eisner & Steven J Branan, $800,000, 10 Serenity Ln

Susan Rosi, North Star Real Estate Group LLC, $800,000, 6 Robandy Rd

Jennifer A Lewis-Hershman & Diane L Lewis Est, Madelayne Z & Daniel W Sullivan, $750,000, 5 Bayberry Ln

Matthew J & Jessica L Karis, Cameron & Rachel Byrne, $735,000, 51 Gould Rd

Matthew E McGovern, Bipul Karki & Prashamsha Katuwal, $700,000, 57 Elm St Unit 2

U S Bank Trust N A Tr, Bun & Mary LLC, $690,000, 199 Andover St

Kesav T Reddy, McCarthy Bros General Contractors Inc, $678,000, 4 Livingston Cir

Caryn Wilson Tr/ Robert A Wilkinson Tr/ HSW/EW Realty Trust, Andrew & Sophie Robbins, $659,000, 19 Sagamore Dr

Joanne D Martin Tr & SJWJ Family Trust, Brendan R & Rebecca Miller, $605,000, 116 Lovejoy Rd

Douglas J Ahern, Anderson Batista & Sirlene Pereira, $600,000, 26 Sutherland St

Sonja M & James E Raney Trs & Richard C Olson 1996 Revocable Trust, Li Niu & Shiyong Chen, $580,000, 1 Donald Cir

Gregory Marc & Jamie Leigh-Bateman LaFlamme, Revive Homes LLC, $520,000, 89 Lowell St

Marcia A Glinos, Douglas J Ahern, $500,000, 26 Sutherland St

Shawn Benzel, Youssef Azeroual & Saida Derhami, $500,000, 20 Linwood St

Shawn & Anne Cavanaugh/Anne Doyle, Michael & Clarissa McDermott, $430,500, 1 Power Mill Sq Unit 209A

Brianna Cole, Riccardo Camarra, $343,000, 16 Balmoral St Unit 110

Judith W Hough, Vladislava Kopytina & Dzianis Sazanchuk, $343,000, 22 Railroad St Unit 109

John J & Dianne C Siudut, Yosmary Ortiz, $339,000, 125 Haverhill St

Andres Felipe Barreto & Fu-Shan Kuo, Michael Mikhil, $325,000, 40 Colonial Dr Unit 40-6

Judith L Thomas, Gina Cloutier, $305,000, 80C Washington Park Dr Unit 9

Jaime L Durning, Divya Poduval, $305,000, 50-2 Colonial Dr Unit 50-2

Scott MacMillan, Thomas Fuerst, $285,000, 24R Pomeroy Rd

Chris Antoniou, Castelmar Properties LLC, $240,000, 6 Cresecent Dr Unit 4

LAWRENCE

Kenneth C & Karin C Keyser Trs & Keyser Living Trust, Labelle Mason LLC, $931,000, 20-22 Holly St, 24-28 Holly St

Douglas G Dukeshire Tr & Sandra A Dukeshire Tr & Dukeshire Real Estate Trust, Victor A Gonzales, $915,000, 71-77 Florence Ave

Eddy I Guzman Tr & E&G Realty Trust, Eloy Acevedo & Ana Contreras, $823,700, 3 Grove St

Nelson Martinez Arvelo, Anyero Andres Rosa Canela & Antonia Santiago & Brahian Vargas Peralta, $710,000, 136-138 Sanborn St

Gary D Then & Ramona H Ynoa, Hugo & Antonia Santana, $676,000, 42 Gilbert St

Luis A Camilo & Nazarena Mejia Del Orbe, Daniel Paulino Martinez & Kevin Paulino Martinez, $659,000, 174 Willow St

Gregory P Lynch Sr Tr & Gregory P Lynch Sr Revocable Trust, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston, $650,000, 281 Merrimack St

21 East Haverhill Street LLC, 21 E H St LLC, $633,000, 21 E Haverhill St

Aldo & Verna Rettagliati, Mario Opont & Dacheny Fidelia, $605,000, 14 Liberty Ave

Jill F Godin, Jose & Ramona A Gomez, $550,000, 71-73 Osgood St

Luis Calcano & Milagros Nunez, 298 Lawrence St LLC, $515,000, 298-298A Lawrence St

Kenneth R Hatch & Martin J Sickler, Elio Montero Castillo & March Roeung, $510,000, 11 Glen Ave

TMH Properties LLC, Dario Salazar & Osmar De Jesus Lopez, $510,000, 107 Greenwood St

Henry E Diaz Tavarez & Paola Estevez, Yanitza S Espinal & Rafael A Peralta, $500,000, 104 Pearl St

Mirlande Pierre & Roubins Guerrier, Saul Pena & Bianca Ortega, $490,000, 14 Morton St

Catherine Githira, Nazarena Mejia Del Orbe & Jorge A Tejera, $480,000, 75 Bryon Ave

Victor L Perez, Jahaira Villa & Juan Brito, $470,000, 68 Wesley St

Kenneth C & Karin C Keyser Trs & Keyser Living Trust, Seneida De Jesus Rodriguez Almarante & Eric Rafael Delgado Rodriguez, $442,000, 31 Border St

William A Vaitkumas, Matthew A & Wilmy D Vaitkunas, $440,000, 26 Wyman St

Berthier Pedneault, Esthenly Medina, $410,000, 21 Camden St

Joseph & Ana Dionne, Lauris Garcia, $408,000, 25 Marlboro St

Mohammed Yamin/Mohammad Yamin, Luis Manuel Correa & Miguelina Antonio, $368,000, 17 Adams St Unit 2

Geli Saroufim, Tauny Marte, $355,000, 11 Broadway Ave

Sarah Benjamin, Evergrain Orchard LLC, $285,000, 13 West Hawley St

Gabriel James Gallindo, Empire Investments LLC, $280,000, 251 Prospect St

Charles & Adrienne Cassidy, Chetan & Ruchir Shah, $250,500, 90 Beacon St Unit 8

V Anthony Ansaldi Tr/Anthony Ansaldi Tr & Cameron-Bishop/Janton Trust, Rachnabai Bafna & Chetan & Munjal Shah, $250,000, 244 Mt Vernon St Unit 7

Shahriar & Behnaz M Rezaei, Miguel G Berroa, $245,000, 270 East Haverhill St Unit 23

Arlene Almonte/Arlene Hernandez, Ernestina Arias, $200,000, 110-112 Allston St

Ronald Lopez, Debbie Lopez, $159,000, 39-41 Ohio Ave

Diversified Investment International LLC, Berny D Lugo, $115,000, 272 East Haverhill St Unit 3

Melvelin Velasquez/Melvelin Velazquez, Matias Capital LLC, $50,000, 107 Abbott St

Lawrence City, Lawrence Family Development Inc, $2,200, 8 Bradford Pl

METHUEN

JR Builders Inc, Joseph W & Gayle M Fili Trs & Fili Family Nominee Trust, $903,000, 3 Geramat Wy

Susan Adams Tr & Adams Methuen Realty Trust, Mahdi Najibnia & Larissa Diane Kadir, $900,000, 5 Judith E Ln

Lawrence P & Lisa M Barry, Todd Boghosian & Polina V Kirillova, $865,000, 40 Arrowwood St

Travis James & Rachel Ann McGlew, Seraphin & Wenda Vilmar, $807,000, 146 Camden St

Harry D & Diane M Porter, Shih Mei Chiang, $799,900, 32 Pine Tree Dr Unit 22

Gregorio Mosquea, Kevin Delgado, $797,500, 452-454 Prospect St

Thomas & Gloria Abbasciano, Jackie D Tran & Nga Thi Triet Ho, $790,000, 27 Sable Run Ln

Raymond A & Dorothy I Landry Trs & Landry Family Trust, Thomas Paolillo & Bernabe Orpilla, $763,600, 10 Bumpy Ln

Stephen E & Colleen A Hajjar Trs & Stephen E Hajjar Revocable Trust & Colleen A Hajjar Revocable Trust, Joshua D Notini, $750,000, 84 Pond St

MJC Develpoment Corp, Jaime Eduardo Chang, $750,000, 4 Turner St

James P & Donna M Willis, Kelli Davidson & James Mack, $715,000, 30 Blueberry Ln

William Haggar Tr & Haggar Family Ruskin Avenue Trust, Carmen & Luis Guerrero, $700,000, 4-6 Ruskin Ave

Richard T & Alicia A Shaheen Trs & Richard J Shaheen Irrevocable Family Trust, Camelo Francisco & Raisa Martinez, $685,000, 46-48 Birchwood Rd

Michelle M Baddour, Precious Osaretin Isibor & Angela Iwinosa Okundaye, $679,900, 199 Hamstead St

Rene G & Sheila M Morin, Alan G & Leoncia Gomez, $660,000, 43 Hideaway Ln

James F Mulligan Tr & James F Mulligan Revocable Trust, Marcos Schneider, $650,000, 144 1/2 Oakland Ave

Jason R & Sarah Abruzzese, Ronald & Valerie L Jean, $650,000, 63 Olympic Village Dr

Matthew R & Stephanie L Turmel/ Stephanie L Chaisson, Thomas & Devon Abruzzese, $630,000, 11 Jefferson Rd

Michael J & Nicole Hughes, Tracey M Meagher & Gerald Bombino Jr, $620,000, 56 Sycamore Rd

Kerri A Williams Tr & Christine L Fogarty Tr & Joyce A Williams Living Trust, Andy A Arias /Andy Arias, $590,000, 63 Frye Rd

Mary Ann Hassey Tr & Hassey Family Revocable Trust, Maximiliano L & Yaritza Rizzo, $590,000, 595 Prospect St

Marion D Maricic Tr & Winter Hill Recocable Trust, Jose Marine, $575,000, 19 Winter Hill Ln

Michael Edward Wholley, Jorge M Franco Mejia & Monica I & Luis Jose Franco, $570,000, 1 Firenze St

Colleen Coco Tr & Kathleen J Sheehy Irrevocable Trust, Ricardo Esteban Lopez, $555,000, 43 Deborah Ave

Christopher J & Lisa Gaigals, Kenneth R Dimmock Sr & Janice L Dimmock, $550,000, 14 Farley St

REAL ESTATE: NEXT PAGE

Laurie Oteri, Tsan Hui Kuan & Yumei He, $538,000, 25 Heather Dr Unit 32

John P & Cynthia R Quigley, John Quinn & Emily Belastock, $530,000, 14 Tyler Ave

Eduardo Brea, Joshua Imadiyi, $530,000, 31 Chippy Ln

Joseph Dolben & Samantha Strong, Carlos Calcano, $530,000, 109 Harris St

April J Lyons, Charles G Matthews & Hailey Ann Delima, $525,000, 27 Dexter St

David P & Stephanie Sieling, Arianny Rodriguez Patino & Stanley E Martinez, $515,000, 40 Williams St

Alex Xavier Lopez & Mirna Paola Morales, Juan & Yanira Pimentel, $500,000, 272 Forest St

Joseph R Wahlgren & Debby Madrid, Rejean Ernius & Emmanuela Ulysse, $500,000, 6 Arthur St

Jane E Sigillo Tr & Orchard Realty Trust, Joseph J Aime, $480,000, 91 Haverhill St

Paul M & Maria Yanet Carneiro, Elizabeth Rose Libro, $477,500, 49 Olive St

Kelli J Davidson, Jonathan A & Kayla Vasquez, $475,000, 119 Myrtle St

Ronald S Petralia, Sandy De Jesus Polanco Veras & Irina Massiel Richiez Baez, $450,000, 78 Boston St

Mohammad Khalid Sayeed & Sarah Usmani, Shakeela Lohar, $440,000, 45 Washington St Unit T-96

Brian D Ubele, Woburn 525 Real Estate LLC, $420,000, 37 Lincoln St

Kathryn J LaFrance Tr & Rosanne L Roy Family Trust, Rachel & Robert Coupal Jr, $410,000, 134 Haverhill St

James C Mahoney, Stephen Campion, $395,000, 1 Pleasant View St

Thomas K & Tina J Dougan Trs & Dougan Family Revocable Trust, Dianne M Polak, $375,000, 45 Washington St Unit S-91

Kely C Wrisley Tr & Wallace 2021 Trust, Edgar Galva, $359,000, 1 Riverview Blvd Unit 1-103

Hermaine J Jean/Hermaine Jean Pierre & Wincher Pierre, Crisayda Belen, $335,000, 5 Bentley Cir Unit 12

Rose M Feole, Elizabeth M Delle Chiaie, $300,000, 45 Christopher Dr Unit 134

Michael J Craffey Tr & John M Cashman Revocable Living Trust, Flip My House LLC, $280,000, 18 Christopher Dr Unit 39

Alpine Village Realty LLC, Rechdan 61 Mystic Street Methuen LLC, $231,000, 61 Mystic St Unit 61-23

Leslie S Reddish, Jhon Vilchez, $220,000, 30 Danbury Dr Unit 11

Jennifer Jason, Richard Comunale, $141,430, 21 Almont St

NORTH ANDOVER

David & Erin Coates, Abhishek Chatterjee & Lilian Chen, $1,580,000, 29 Anne Rd

Robert Berberian & Rebecca L Potts-Berberian, Joseph & Marcia Valenti, $1,570,000, 45 Berrington Pl

Karen A Mello Tr & Karen A Mello Revocable Trust, Town-Long Stables LLC, $1,325,000, 40 Duncan Dr

Charles W McAllister Jr Tr & In Laws Realty Trust, RLS Re LLC, $1,100,000, 200 Sutton St

Michael E & Deborah A Chittick, David G Coates, $1,100,000, 299 Dale St

Justin & Elizabeth Ouellet, Leonard Goodkin & Wendy A Vaulton, $1,090,000, 72 Pheasant Brook Rd

Remade LLC, Daniel Burger & Olivia Imprescia, $1,030,000, 1000 Johnson St

Michael A & Mary T Rosenberger, Brian F & Elizabeth G Wettach, $922,000, 99 Gray St

Thomas E & Jean H Kooken Trs & Kooken Realty Trust, Michael & Sarah Vaudo, $853,000, 37 Bradstreet Rd

Richard A Fain Est/Richard Arnold Fain Est & Jonathan S Fain, Abbie C & Andrew J Hanson, $785,000, 242 Johnson St

Helen M Blanchard Tr & Cadarette Family Irrevocable Trust, Brett & Lauren Tierney, $740,000, 81 Lisa Ln

Paul J Scenna & Christina M Zelandi, Krystal Marie Richard & Nicolas Todd Richard, $703,000, 34 Troy Rd

John T & Lynn E McLoughlin, Melissa A Marrama, $685,000, 327 Salem St

U S Bank Trust NA Tr, Vickie & Patrick Nolan, $674,000, 80 Sandra Ln

Sanjay & Vaidehi Singh, Michelle Baddour, $579,900, 26 Main St Unit 1

Bruce Siemering Tr & VBB Realty Trust, Cory Cataldo & Kashka Gammon, $550,000, 50 Marblehead St Unit 50

Alexander & Gloria A Jimenez Trs & Alexander & Gloria Jimenez 2018 Revocable Trust, Christy L Damour, $535,000, 58 Millpond

Ralitsa Kalmukova & Anthony Paradis, Yassine El Andaloussi & Kathryn E Maruskin, $475,000, 4 Harvest Dr Unit 202

Anthony L Rogato & Maria M Glavin, Pegah Jarast Shamsabadi, $465,000, 2 Harvest Dr Unit 212

Mary E Gibson/Mary E Mahoney, Chidambaram Dhanasekaran & Rekhadevi Jeevanandam Joke, $426,000, 3 Harvest Dr Unit 102

Mark & Bonnie W Vincent, Nicole M Garuti Tr & Demaso Family Irrevocable Trust, $400,000, 148 Main St Unit S429

Jennifer B Hardock Tr & Marilyn A Bardetti 1998 Family Trust, Jean A Ledee, $380,000, 148 Main St Unit B-432

Mary E Reynolds, LS Property LLC, $275,000, 30 Fernview Ave Unit 2

Stephanie Brooks, Paul Minichiello, $215,000, 156 Chestnut St Unit 6

Kathy C Stevens, Horace Nathaniel Stevens & Danielle Leane Paratore, $200,000, 144 Waverly Rd Unit 2

Breda Daou Tr & Dei Realty Trust, Eric Lapointe, $200,000, 811 Turnpike St Unit 102, 104

CENTURY 21
McLennan & Company
Your Hometown Real Estate Experts for the Past 35 Years
(978) 683-8008

Mike Sullivan
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Cell: 978-204-2758
Email: sull33@aol.com

2023 TO-DO LIST ESTATE PLANNING... IT'S TIME

Peter J. Caruso, Sr., Esq.

We Make Estate Planning Your Easiest Task

- Free Video Conference Meetings
- Remote Document Signing
- Digital Delivery of Documents

Wills
Trusts (Simple and Complex)
Powers of Attorney
Health Care Proxies
Estate Tax Planning
Probate & Will Contests

Peter J. Caruso II, Esq.

CARUSO & CARUSO LLP
NATIONAL EXPERIENCE. HOMETOWN SERVICE.
978.475.2200 68 Main Street, Andover, MA 01810 pcarusoii@carusoandcaruso.com

HERO: FROM PAGE 1

worked as a PBX engineer in Boston and in Manchester, NH until moving to AT&T as a Senior Project engineer in Greensboro, NC. Doing contract work for military bases, Joe had the opportunity to travel the world, with high security clearance from the United States Department of State. As a runner, Joe also ran on the AT&T running team and competed in many races including three Marine Corp Marathons.

Joe and Peg (Fitzgibbons) celebrated their 65th anniversary this year. Together they raised their family of 4 children in Lawrence, MA, Manchester, NH, and Greensboro, NC. He retired at 60 years old and enjoys spending time with family, golfing, watching sports, and spending winters with his wife in North Myrtle Beach. Joe has served as a Eucharistic minister at St. Patrick's Church in Hampton Beach for many years. He is a proud member of the American Legion, the Elks, and the Pioneers for over 50 years. Joe is proud of his children, grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and his fellow veterans, especially those in his extended family. Joe celebrated his 89th birthday in November.

When our cousin, John Cuddy, reached out to us from Arizona, asking for us to interview our dad regarding his time in the service, we were honored by his request. What an opportunity to sit down and hear dad's stories of that time in his life. John reaches out to our parents often, sending our dad cards and calling to connect. His support is genuinely appreciated. John shared that

he regretted not having interviewed his uncles Bill and John before their passing. We are delighted to have had the chance to revisit our dad's time serving our country and appreciate John's commitment to recognizing veterans across the country.

The Valley Patriot invites any citizen of the Merrimack Valley to reach out, contact John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com, and record your family member's service to our Nation. This is an important document to leave to future generations. ◊

TV TALK with BILL CUSHING

"Lessons In Chemistry"

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

'Lessons in Chemistry' is a terrific new limited series based on the popular novel of the same name and is my recommendation for this month.

The series stars Oscar winner Brie Larson as chemist Elizabeth Zott, who has long been underestimated simply because she's a woman living in America in the 1950s. We first see Elizabeth standing before a live studio audience as she hosts her wildly popular TV show Supper at Six. But she never intended to become a television personality. Her first love is science, which we soon find out when the show flashes back to 7 years prior and we are told her story.

When we see Elizabeth 7 years ago, she was struggling for recognition while working in a world-renowned chemistry laboratory. She's a brilliant chemist, but sexism in the lab relegates her to filling coffee cups for the men, even if she is one of the keener minds within Hastings Research Institute. Elizabeth decides to borrow some chemicals from another lab to complete a project, this lab belongs to Calvin Evans (Lewis Pullman).

Calvin, the equally socially awkward and award-winning chemist, lives in a primarily Black neighborhood and resides next door to Harriet (Aja Naomi King), a mother of two who continues to fight social injustice, including a freeway being built that will segregate their neighborhood from the rest of the community.

Calvin's discovery of the missing chemicals causes him to confront Elizabeth. At first, Calvin is oblivious to Elizabeth's trials as a woman. She's looked down upon for not having a PhD, which she didn't finish after being sexually assaulted by a superior.

Yet, they share the same interest in abiogenesis, meaning the theory that life originated from nonliving matter. Their meeting radically changes both of their lives.

Calvin and Elizabeth are two loners who eventually come together, as the two bond over a mutual passion for science as well as an appreciation for good food. Their relationship is as charming as it is inevitable, living together with a dog named Six Thirty ("excellent name. After carbon and zinc, I assume?" says Calvin. But actually, named after the time he wakes up Elizabeth every morning.)

To give away too much more of the story, such as how Elizabeth goes from a struggling chemist to a famous television personality, would be criminal. Viewers deserve to watch how the story unfolds.

The show has great acting from top to bottom. Brie Larson delivers one of the best performances of the year and will definitely be remembered at Emmy time. Pullman and King also give excellent, poignant work here. Alice Halsey is perfection later in the series as Elizabeth's precocious daughter, who's determined to solve a family mystery. Even Six Thirty gets his own time to shine when we see an episode through his eyes.

Fans of shows like Mad Men, The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel and The Queen's Gambit will find much to like in 'Lessons in Chemistry,' a solid, addictive prestige drama full of incredible performances, inspiring characters, and one of the best TV romances in some time.

'Lessons in Chemistry' is available to stream on AppleTV+.

If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

Follow me on Twitter and Instagram @BillsTVTalk and on Facebook at BillsTVTalk for daily up-to-the-minute TV news and discussion. ◊

The Christmas Story

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

There are so many timely moments and intricate parts and special characters involved in the Christmas Story that have always amazed me through the years. The one that stands out to me the most as I am putting pen to paper, or more accurately, finger to keyboard, for this column is Joseph, husband to Mary, the mother of Jesus.

We read in Matthew 1:16, "And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ." NKJV. Further on in the same chapter, Matthew 1:18-21, we read, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." NKJV.

In verse 19 we read the word minded, which could be translated as willing, Joseph was willing to put Mary secretly away for her protection. In verse 20 we read that Joseph was thinking about these things which could be translated as pondering. Joseph was thinking, pondering carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion about what to do about Mary. Could it be possible that since Joseph was a just man, he read Isaiah 50:1-4, which reads, "The LORD asks, "Did I sell you as slaves to my creditors? Is that why you are not here? Is your mother gone because I divorced her and sent her away? No, you went away as captives because of your sins. And your mother, too, was taken because of your sins. 2 Was I too weak to save you? Is that why the house is silent and empty when I come home? Is it because I have no power to rescue? No, that is not the reason! For I can speak to the sea and make it dry! I can turn rivers into deserts covered with dying fish. 3 I am the one who sends darkness out across the skies, bringing it to a state of mourning." 4 The Sovereign LORD has given me his words of wisdom, so that I know what to say to all these weary ones. Morning by morning he wakens me and opens my understanding to his will." NLT.

The Bible says that Joseph was pondering all his options, one of which was divorce. I remember my first encounter with the D-word, which was code for Divorce back in the 1970s. Every Christmas as a family we would watch the Andy Williams show with the Osmond brothers and in the year 1970, it was announced that Andy Williams and his wife separated and later divorced in 1974. I was immediately filled with sadness and despair. I thought for sure this was a mistake, but unfortunately, it wasn't.

So, with one of the options being divorce on Joseph's mind, The Bible says, Behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

Because Joseph was a just man and willing to protect and promote Mary, instead of himself, God could step into that moment and give Joseph the wisdom he needed to make the right decision concerning Mary who later on gave birth to Jesus.

Matthew 1:22-25, "So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." 24 Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, 25 and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS. NKJV.

Because of Joseph having a reputation of a just character, and a willing, thoughtful heart for others greater than himself, God could show up and do what only He could do! Therefore, we get to tell the story, The Christmas Story.

Imagine a world full of people with this same character today, what could God do with that?

God Bless you all,

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!!!

Peter Larocque
Peterlarocque@hotmail.com ◊

afc URGENT CARE
american family care
380 Merrimack St, Methuen * (978) 975-0700

ZP ZANNI & PESCE LAW OFFICES
zannipescelaw.com
BANKRUPTCY • REAL ESTATE
ESTATE PLANNING • PERSONAL INJURY

Salvatore's
In & Outdoor
Dining private
Events
Catering
Live Music
Live Shows
354 MERRIMACK STREET
LAWRENCE, MA
978-291-0220 X1